MOON KNIGHT
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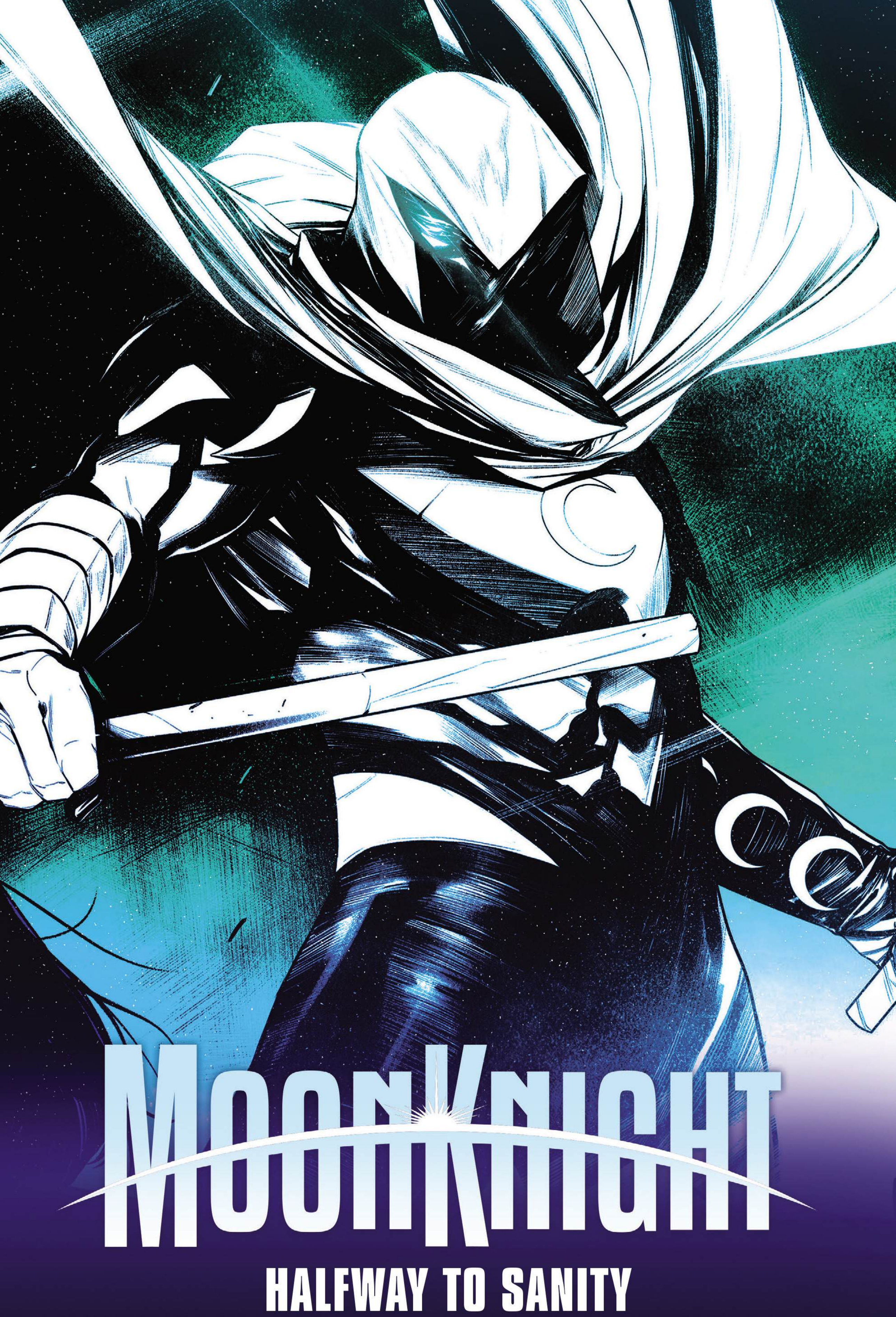
HALFWAY TO SANITY
MARVEL


MOON KNIGHT
HALFWAY TO SANITY

Mercenary Marc Spector died and was reborn in the shadow of Khonshu, the Egyptian god of the moon. Spector became **Moon Knight**, the Fist of Khonshu, to fight evil. Through his Midnight Mission, he is the defender of all those who travel at night.

MOON KNIGHT

The super villain Zodiac and his gang launched an all-out attack on Moon Knight and the Midnight Mission. During the battle, Zodiac mortally wounded Moon Knight's ally Soldier. When Moon Knight, in the presence of his vampiric assistant Reese, attempted to take revenge by killing Zodiac, his Steven Grant persona emerged to prevent it.

HALFWAY TO SANITY

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13 KNIGHT FEEDERS

TELL ME ABOUT MOON KNIGHT.
YOU KNOW, I DON'T GET AS MUCH CONSULTING WORK AS YOU'D THINK. WHICH IS WEIRD, RIGHT?
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN IN THIS BIZ A *LONG TIME.* I *KNOW* THINGS. BUT MOST PEOPLE, WHEN THEY HIRE ME?
"*TASKMASTER*, KILL THIS GUY. *TASKMASTER*, BLOW UP THIS BUILDING. *TASKMASTER*, MAKE SURE MY EX-HUSBAND NEVER WALKS AGAIN."
ANYWAYS. *MOON KNIGHT.*

"SHORT ANSWER? DON'T."
SUNRISE.
CAN'T SEE IT YET. ALCHEMAX TOWER'S BLOCKING THE SUN, CASTING THIS SHADOW WE'RE IN.
BUT THAT SHADOW'S GOING TO RECEDE AS THE SUN RISES. WHICH MEANS THAT YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO TALK BEFORE IT GETS TO YOU.
THINK OF IT LIKE A SUNDIAL.
ONE OF YOU VAMPIRES BURNS EVERY THREE MINUTES UNTIL YOU TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW.

I DON'T THINK I UNDERSTAND.

LOOK... *TUTOR?* THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL YOURSELF, RIGHT?

YOU AND YOUR WHOLE *VAMPIRE PYRAMID SCHEME* THING, THE *STRUCTURE?* IT'S GREAT. IT'S A GREAT RACKET.

BUT MOON KNIGHT'S ON A *DIFFERENT LEVEL.*

LAST PEOPLE WHO SENT ME AFTER HIM HAD HIS FULL JACKET.

USMC. C.I.A. FREELANCE MERCENARY WORK.

HE'S AS AT HOME MURDERING PEOPLE IN SOUTH AMERICAN JUNGLES AND AFRICAN DESERTS AS HE IS HERE IN NEW YORK.

WHAT THE MARINES DIDN'T TEACH HIM ABOUT VIOLENCE, THE C.I.A DID. AND THEN HE HOOKED UP WITH MANIACS LIKE *RAUL BUSHMAN* TO *REALLY* PUT THE FINISH ON HIS EDUCATION.

HE'S A BLADE THAT'S BEEN SHARPENED BY A LOT OF STONES, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

BUT THAT'S NOT THE REASON HE'S *DANGEROUS.*

FOUR DOWN.
CLOCK'S TICKING.

I WANT THE *TUTOR.*
I WANT THE WHOLE *STRUCTURE.*
TELL ME WHERE THEIR LAIR IS.

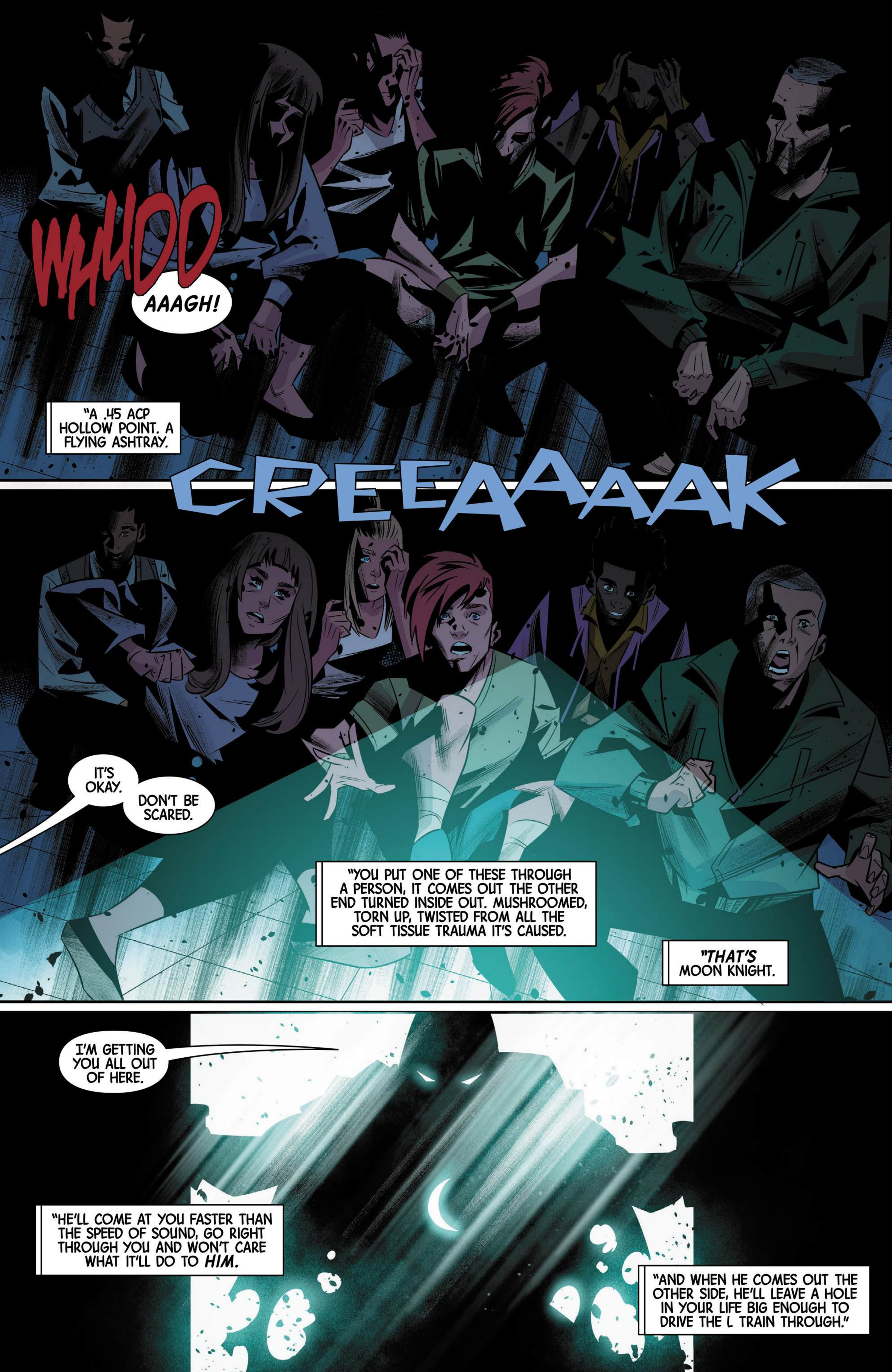
Y-YOU TH-THINK I'M W-WEAK?
WEAK L-LIKE *YOU* ARE?
I'M A RHO-LEVEL.

WE *KNOW* ABOUT YOU, *MOON KNIGHT.*

AND WE KNOW ABOUT THE *DEFECTOR* YOU KEEP CLOSE TO YOU.

AND WE KNOW SHE BROKE THE RULES.
WELL THEN.
LET'S SKIP RIGHT TO THE END.
AIEEEEE!!

HMM.
BUT HE'S JUST A MAN, IS HE NOT?
JUST A MAN?
MY PEOPLE HAVE LEFT HUMANITY BEHIND. WE HAVE TRANSCENDED HUMANITY. BECOME A BETTER BREED.
IN A SIMILAR WAY TO HOW YOU HAVE, WITH YOUR MAGNIFICENT BRAIN.
BUT THE MOON KNIGHT, HE HAS NO SUPER-POWERS.
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT MOON KNIGHT IS?
THIS IS MOON KNIGHT.


WHUOO
AAAGH!
"A .45 ACP HOLLOW POINT. A FLYING ASHTRAY.
CREEAAAAK
IT'S OKAY.
DON'T BE SCARED.
"YOU PUT ONE OF THESE THROUGH A PERSON, IT COMES OUT THE OTHER END TURNED INSIDE OUT. MUSHROOMED, TORN UP, TWISTED FROM ALL THE SOFT TISSUE TRAUMA IT'S CAUSED.
"THAT'S MOON KNIGHT.
I'M GETTING YOU ALL OUT OF HERE.
"HE'LL COME AT YOU FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF SOUND, GO RIGHT THROUGH YOU AND WON'T CARE WHAT IT'LL DO TO HIM.
"AND WHEN HE COMES OUT THE OTHER SIDE, HE'LL LEAVE A HOLE IN YOUR LIFE BIG ENOUGH TO DRIVE THE L TRAIN THROUGH."

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TOOK A MAN AND MADE HIM INTO A BULLET. AND I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.
YOU HAVE A GIFT FOR THE *THEATRICAL*, TASKMASTER.
WHAT, YOU DIDN'T NOTICE THE *PIRATE BOOTS* AND THE *SKULL MASK* WHEN I CAME IN?
THE FACT REMAINS.
MOON KNIGHT HAS BECOME A *PROBLEM.*
HE'S BEEN KILLING MY PEOPLE.
GRANTED, I CAN ALWAYS HAVE MORE TURNED--THAT IS, OF COURSE, THE *POINT* OF THE STRUCTURE.
BUT IT'S MORE THAN THAT. HE'S ATTACKING OUR *INFRASTRUCTURE.* FREEING OUR FOOD STOCK AND WORSE.
HE HAS *DEFECTORS* WITH HIM.
FOUR VAMPIRES WHO *SHOULD* BE MINE THAT HE *TOOK* FROM ME.
THAT WAS BAD ENOUGH. BUT IT WAS NOT A *PRESSING* PROBLEM.
NOT UNTIL HE HAD ONE OF THEM CHALLENGE MY *EXCLUSIVITY.*

...SHE WAS SAD. BUT SHE WASN'T ANGRY. OR AT LEAST, NOT AT ME.
THE WORST PART IS THAT SHE SAID IT WASN'T MY FAULT.
IS THAT SO BAD, MARC?
WHEN YOU WENT TO SPEAK WITH SOLDIER'S MOTHER, WERE YOU SEEKING ABSOLUTION OR PUNISHMENT?
I DON'T KNOW.
WITH WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, I HAD TO TALK TO HER.
HE WAS AT THE MISSION BECAUSE OF ME. HE WAS WEARING MY SUIT, FOR GOD'S SAKE.
YOU DIDN'T KIDNAP HIM, MARC.
YOU DIDN'T TRICK OR COERCE HIM. YOU CERTAINLY DIDN'T DRESS HIM.
YOU HAVE ENOUGH PAIN IN YOUR LIFE THAT'S YOUR OWN. YOU DON'T NEED TO BORROW ANYONE ELSE'S.
IS THAT SO, DR. STERMAN?
DIDN'T I JUST GET YOU KIDNAPPED BY A MANIAC?
MY LINE OF WORK IS TO HELP PEOPLE IN YOUR LINE OF WORK.
THAT IS THE BUSINESS I'M IN, MARC. I'VE NEVER HAD ANY ILLUSIONS ABOUT WHAT IT MIGHT MEAN FOR ME. IT'S THE CHOICE I'VE MADE.
JUST LIKE SOLDIER HAD NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT WHAT IT COULD MEAN TO WEAR YOUR SUIT AND STEP OUTSIDE OF YOUR MIDNIGHT MISSION THAT NIGHT.
JUST LIKE HE MADE A CHOICE.

...MARC'S STILL OUT?

YOU KNOW HOW HE'S BEEN EVER SINCE ZODIAC, TIGRA. EVER SINCE...SOLDIER, HE'S GONE NO-BRAKES AT THE STRUCTURE.

DAILY BUGLE
MIDNIGHT MAN RETURNS!

HE SAYS HE'S DOING IT FOR ME.

FOR WHAT THEY DID TO ME. SAYS THAT HE'D LEFT IT TOO LONG AS IT IS.

YOU BELIEVE HIM, REESE?

OF COURSE I DON'T.

HE TELLS ME THAT SO HE CAN TELL *HIMSELF* THAT.

HE NEEDS TO *HURT* SOMEONE. THIS IS BECAUSE OF ZODIAC AND WHAT HE DID TO MR. KNIGHT.

WHAT HE DID TO *SOLDIER.*

AND IT'S ABOUT *"STEVEN GRANT."*

YOU WANT TO TELL ME WHAT *THAT'S* ALL ABOUT?

HEY, WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT? THE MIDNIGHT MAN'S BACK. WEIRD.
DID YOU KNOW HE WAS ONE OF MARC'S ENEMIES?
I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD THOUGH...
DAILY BU
MIDNIGHT M
RETURNS
LOOK.
GRANT'S NOT MY STORY TO TELL.
OH, SO ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU'RE NOT A SNITCH?
DO I HAVE THAT RIGHT?
I SAID I WAS SORRY.
BUT I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU THAT ONE FOR FREE.
BECAUSE I KNOW YOU'RE FEELING BAD ABOUT SOLDIER--
HEY...

...WHY DO YOU ALL KEEP TALKING ABOUT ME LIKE I'M *DEAD?*
WELL...

"...THING IS, YOU KIND OF *ARE*, SOLDIER."

AS I SAID. NO VAMPIRES ARE CREATED IN *THIS* CITY OUTSIDE OF *MY* SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.

BUT MOON KNIGHT IS MAKING MORE.

AND I CANNOT LET THAT CHALLENGE *STAND.*

TASKMASTER.

WITH A... *NOTABLE EXCEPTION,* I AM THE SINGLE MOST POWERFUL VAMPIRE IN *NEW YORK CITY.*

MY PEOPLE ARE GROWING IN NUMBER. I AM POISED AT THE PRECIPICE OF A *GREAT OPPORTUNITY,* ONE THAT I WOULD DEARLY LIKE *REALIZED.* BUT THIS MAN, THIS *MOON KNIGHT,* THREATENS TO TIP IT ALL OVER.

IN EXCHANGE FOR A *GREAT DEAL OF MONEY...*

...WOULD YOU LIKE TO KILL MOON KNIGHT FOR ME?

NOTHING DOING.

HM.
ARE YOU SCARED?
YOU PAY ME TO TALK AND YOU DON'T LISTEN?
OF COURSE I'M SCARED.
AND IT AIN'T JUST ME.
YOU WANT ME TO GO AFTER SPIDER-MAN? SURE. DAREDEVIL? I'LL HAVE A GO AT HIM, WHY NOT?
HELL, I'VE MADE A CAREER OUT OF TAKING A POKE AT CAPTAIN AMERICA.
BUT MOON KNIGHT? HE CRASHED A DAMN HELICOPTER INTO A BUILDING TO GET AT ME.
LIKE I NEED TO LIVE THROUGH MY OWN PERSONAL 9/11 AGAIN.
GOOD LUCK FINDING ANYONE IN THE CITY WHO'S UP FOR THAT KIND OF PAIN. ANYONE WHO AIN'T A PSYCHO OR A SCRUB AT LEAST, NEITHER OF WHICH ARE WORTH THE MONEY.
HMM.
NO ONE.
NO ONE IN THE CITY.

LOOK OUT, HE'S PACKING SILVER--
YEAAAARRGHH!
THE TUTOR'S FINALLY SENDING OUT HIS BIG GUNS.
FINALLY TAKING ME SERIOUSLY.
HEY.
MOON KNIGHT.
RNNN.
WHAT LEVEL ARE YOU GUYS SUPPOSED TO BE?

CHILL OUT, CHILL OUT. LOOK.

THERE'S A MAN OUT THERE WHO WANTS YOU DEAD. A COUPLE NIGHTS AGO, HE OFFERED ME A PILE OF SCRATCH TO DO IT.

I TURNED HIM DOWN. AND I WANT *YOU* TO KNOW...

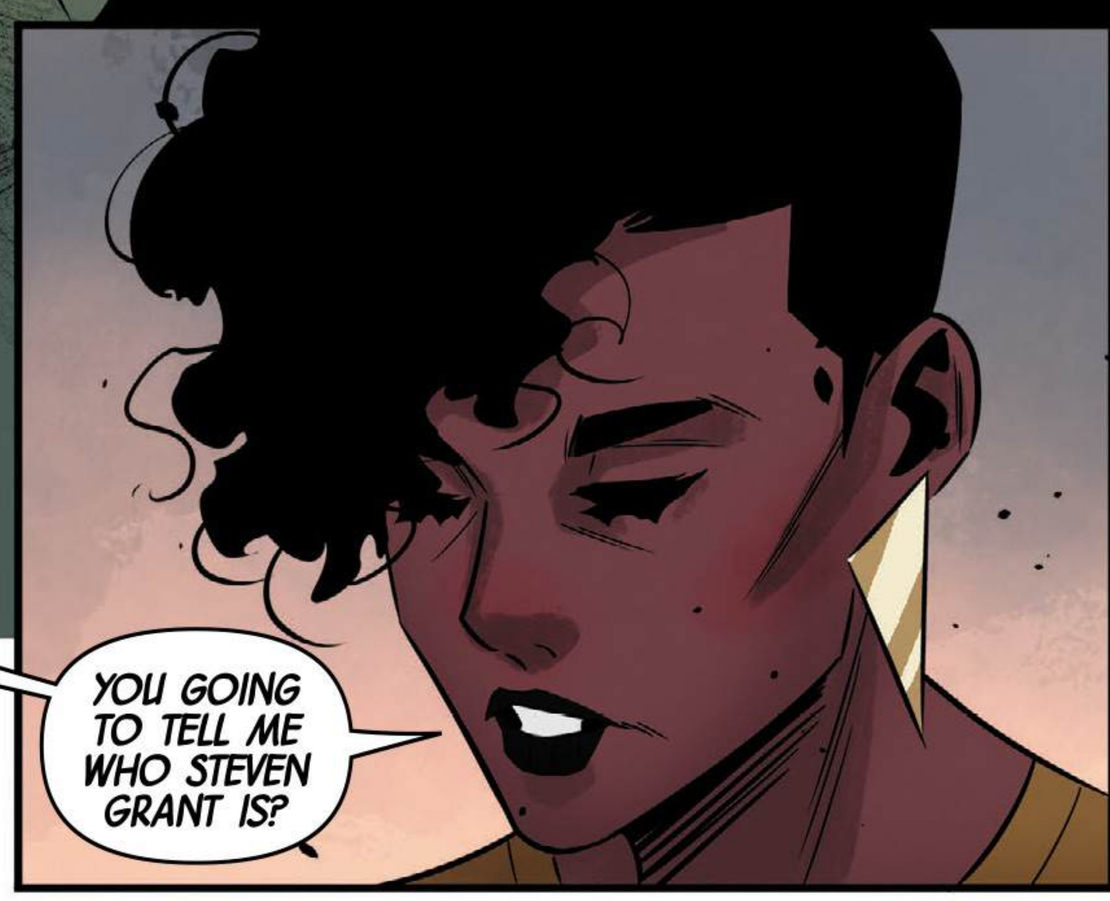
THANK YOU FOR COMING.
I HAVE A PROBLEM.
THERE IS A MAN I WOULD LIKE KILLED.
UNFORTUNATELY, HIS REPUTATION MEANS THAT I'VE BEEN FORCED TO REACH OUT FURTHER AFIELD IN MY SEARCH FOR... PROFESSIONALS.
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT THIS A STUMBLING BLOCK IN MY ENDEAVORS.
BUT NOW I SEE IT AS AN ADVANTAGE.
NEW FACES PRESENT NEW OPPORTUNITIES. AND I AM VERY FOND OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES.

NEMEAN.
GRAND MAL.
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO KILL MOON KNIGHT FOR ME, PLEASE.

MR. KNIGHT?

YOU OKAY?

I'M FINE, REESE. JUST TIRED.
I'M GETTING CLOSER TO THE TUTOR.

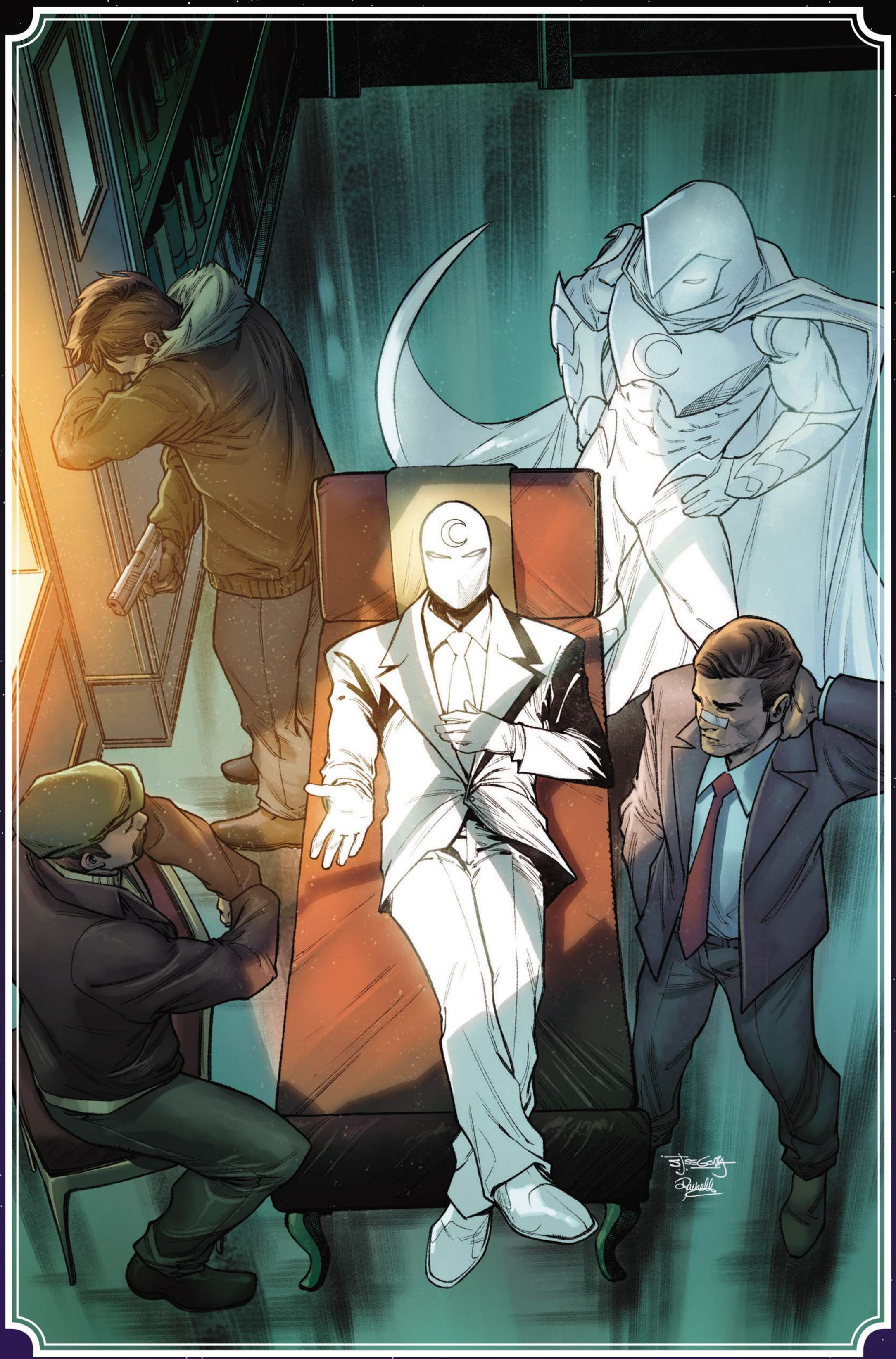

COOL.
YOU GOING TO TELL ME WHO STEVEN GRANT IS?

NOT TONIGHT, REESE.
SOON.
I PROMISE. GOOD NIGHT.

GENTLEMEN.

I THINK...

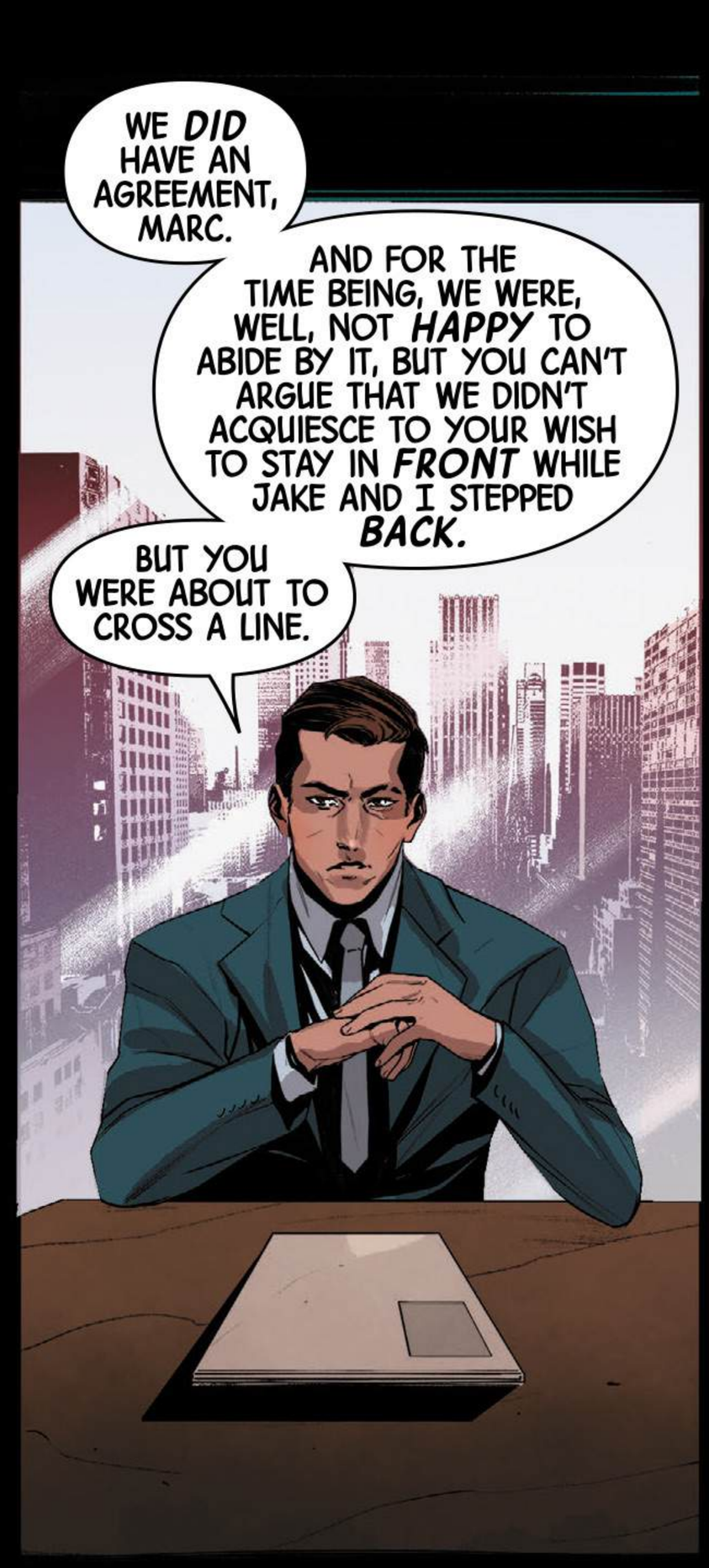
...IT'S TIME WE TALK.



14 SOLDIER, RICH MAN, SCOUNDREL

"I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU INTERFERE IN MY BUSINESS, STEVEN."

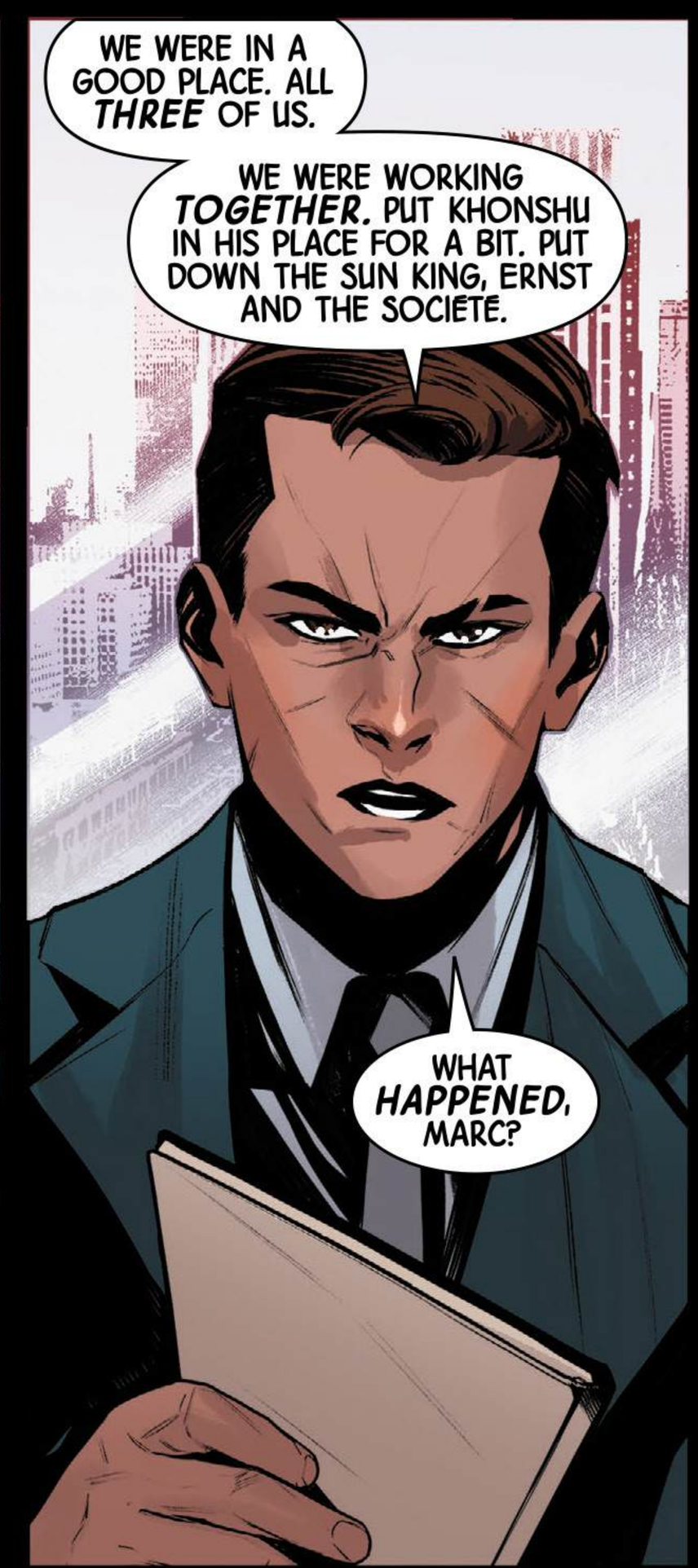
I THOUGHT WE HAD AN *AGREEMENT.*


WE *DID* HAVE AN AGREEMENT, MARC.
AND FOR THE TIME BEING, WE WERE, WELL, NOT *HAPPY* TO ABIDE BY IT, BUT YOU CAN'T ARGUE THAT WE DIDN'T ACQUIESCE TO YOUR WISH TO STAY IN *FRONT* WHILE JAKE AND I STEPPED *BACK.*
BUT YOU WERE ABOUT TO CROSS A LINE.

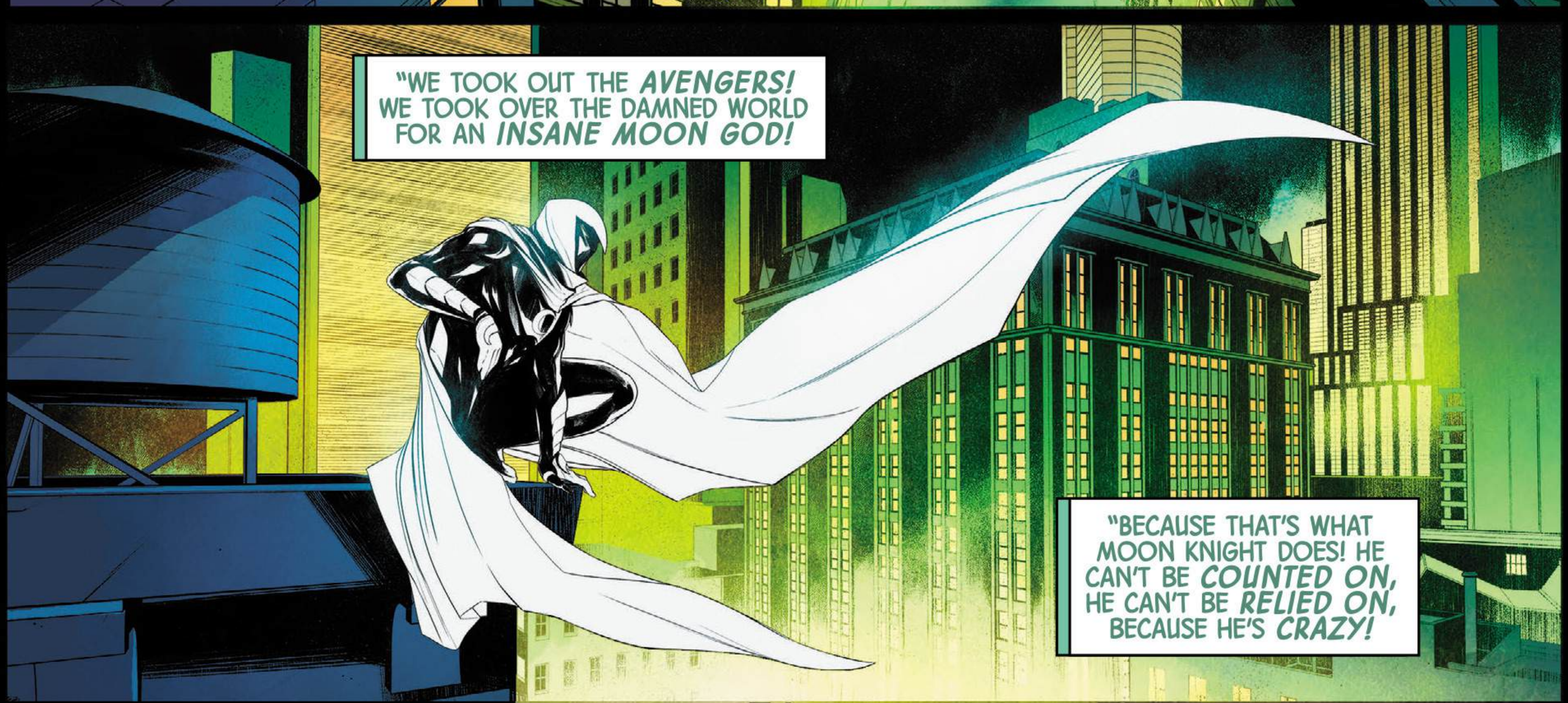
YOU WERE OUT OF CONTROL.
SURE, *I* WOULDN'T HAVE MINDED PUTTING ZODIAC IN THE GROUND. BUT TO DO IT IN FRONT OF THE GIRL? COME ON, MARC.

OUR AGREEMENT, GENTLEMEN.

YOUR AGREEMENT, MARC.


WE WERE IN A GOOD PLACE. ALL *THREE* OF US.
WE WERE WORKING *TOGETHER.* PUT KHONSHU IN HIS PLACE FOR A BIT. PUT DOWN THE SUN KING, ERNST AND THE SOCIETE.
WHAT *HAPPENED,* MARC?

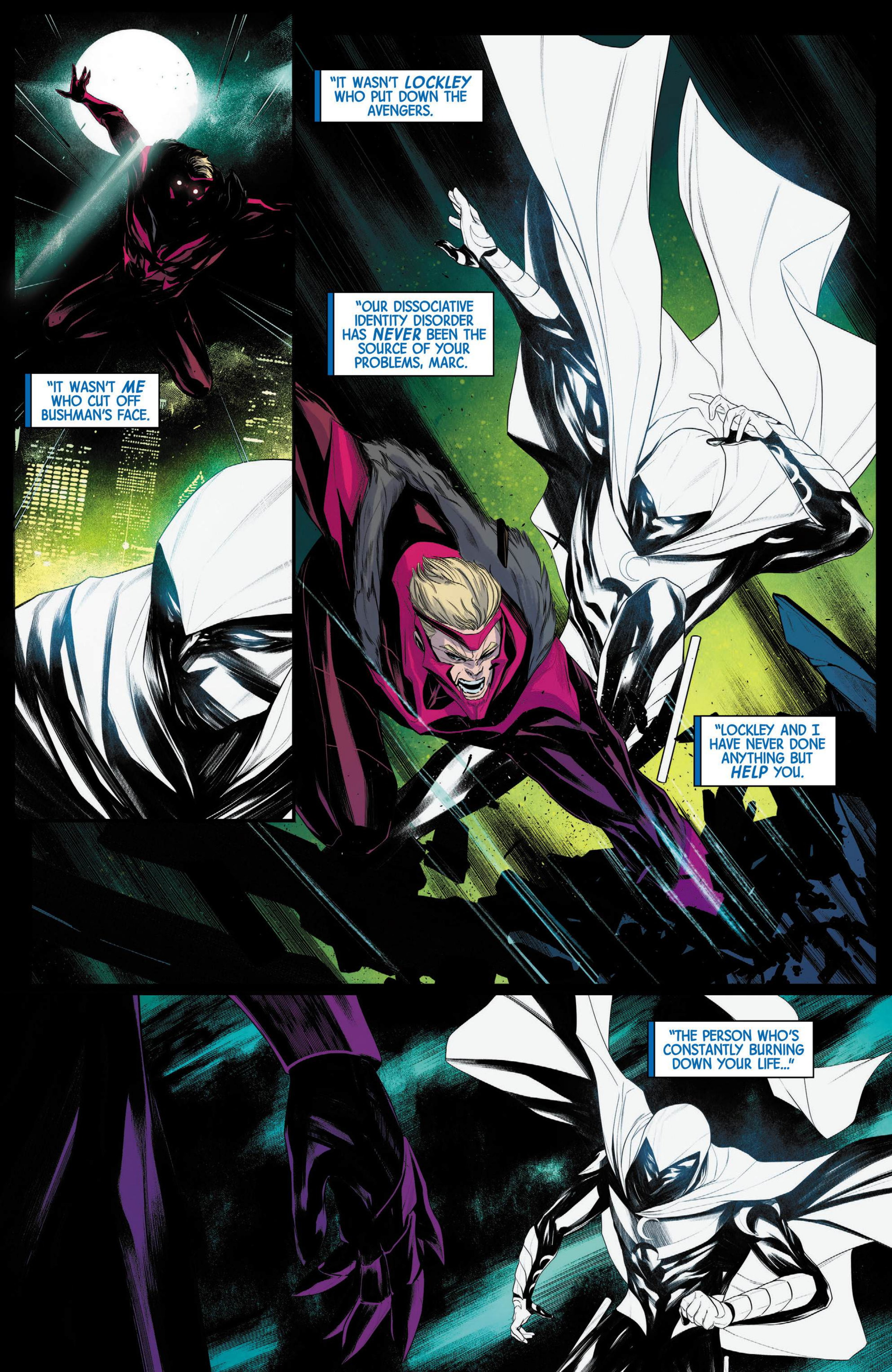
"THE AGE OF KHONSHU HAPPENED, STEVEN!


"WE TOOK OUT THE AVENGERS! WE TOOK OVER THE DAMNED WORLD FOR AN INSANE MOON GOD!
"BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT MOON KNIGHT DOES! HE CAN'T BE COUNTED ON, HE CAN'T BE RELIED ON, BECAUSE HE'S CRAZY!

"I LOST MARLENE, LOST DIATRICE, LOST EVERYONE BECAUSE OF IT. WE NEEDED TO PRESENT A UNIFIED FRONT. WE NEEDED A STRONG HAND ON THE TILLER.
"I HAD TO TAKE CHARGE FOR THE GOOD OF ALL OF US.

"YOU BOTH KNOW WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT US. I NEEDED TO SHOW THE PEOPLE THAT MOON KNIGHT WASN'T CRAZY."

"CRAZY."
WE'RE NOT CRAZY, MARC. WELL, MAYBE GRANT IS. YOU SEEN HOW MUCH HE PAYS FOR A SUIT?
NO, "CRAZY" IS WHAT STUPID PEOPLE CALL THINGS THEY DON'T TAKE THE TIME TO UNDERSTAND.
YOU, ME, GRANT...
...WE'RE A TEAM. OR WE SHOULD BE.
I HAVE THE AVENGERS WATCHING ME, JAKE.
THE BLACK PANTHER, FOR GOD'S SAKE.
MY--OUR CONDITION IS A LIABILITY.
MARC, I AM GOING TO ASK YOU A QUESTION, ONE THAT YOU WON'T LIKE, BUT ONE THAT SHOULD HAVE OCCURRED TO YOU A LONG TIME AGO.
THE STATE OF YOUR LIFE, THE PROBLEMS YOU HAVE, ALL THE THINGS YOU'VE DONE...
...HAS ANY OF THAT EVER STEMMED FROM OUR CONDITION?


"IT WASN'T *ME* WHO CUT OFF BUSHMAN'S FACE.
"IT WASN'T *LOCKLEY* WHO PUT DOWN THE AVENGERS.
"OUR DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER HAS *NEVER* BEEN THE SOURCE OF YOUR PROBLEMS, MARC.
"LOCKLEY AND I HAVE NEVER DONE ANYTHING BUT *HELP* YOU.
"THE PERSON WHO'S CONSTANTLY BURNING DOWN YOUR LIFE..."

...IS YOU.
DON'T YOU SAY THAT.

DO YOU THINK I LIKE SAYING IT?
YOU'VE BEEN SO CONCERNED WITH KEEPING OUR CONDITION "UNDER CONTROL" TO LOOK RESPECTABLE, YOU DIDN'T REALIZE THAT OUR CONDITION HAS NEVER BEEN THE PROBLEM.

THERE YOU GO, DARLIN', THAT'S FOR YOU--
LOOK, MARC, I DON'T LIKE SAYING IT ANY MORE THAN YOU LIKE HEARING IT.
BUT IT'S TIME TO FACE IT.

ALL THAT TIME YOU BEEN SPENDING WITH THAT NICE DOCTOR LADY, HOW MANY QUESTIONS DID SHE ASK ABOUT ME? OR ABOUT GRANT?
YOU'VE BEEN TREATING YOUR THERAPY AS SOMETHING TO KEEP US IN CHECK. YOU NEVER NOTICE THAT THE REAL GOAL SEEMS TO BE TO KEEP YOU IN LINE?

I'M DOING FINE.
I'VE GOT EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL.

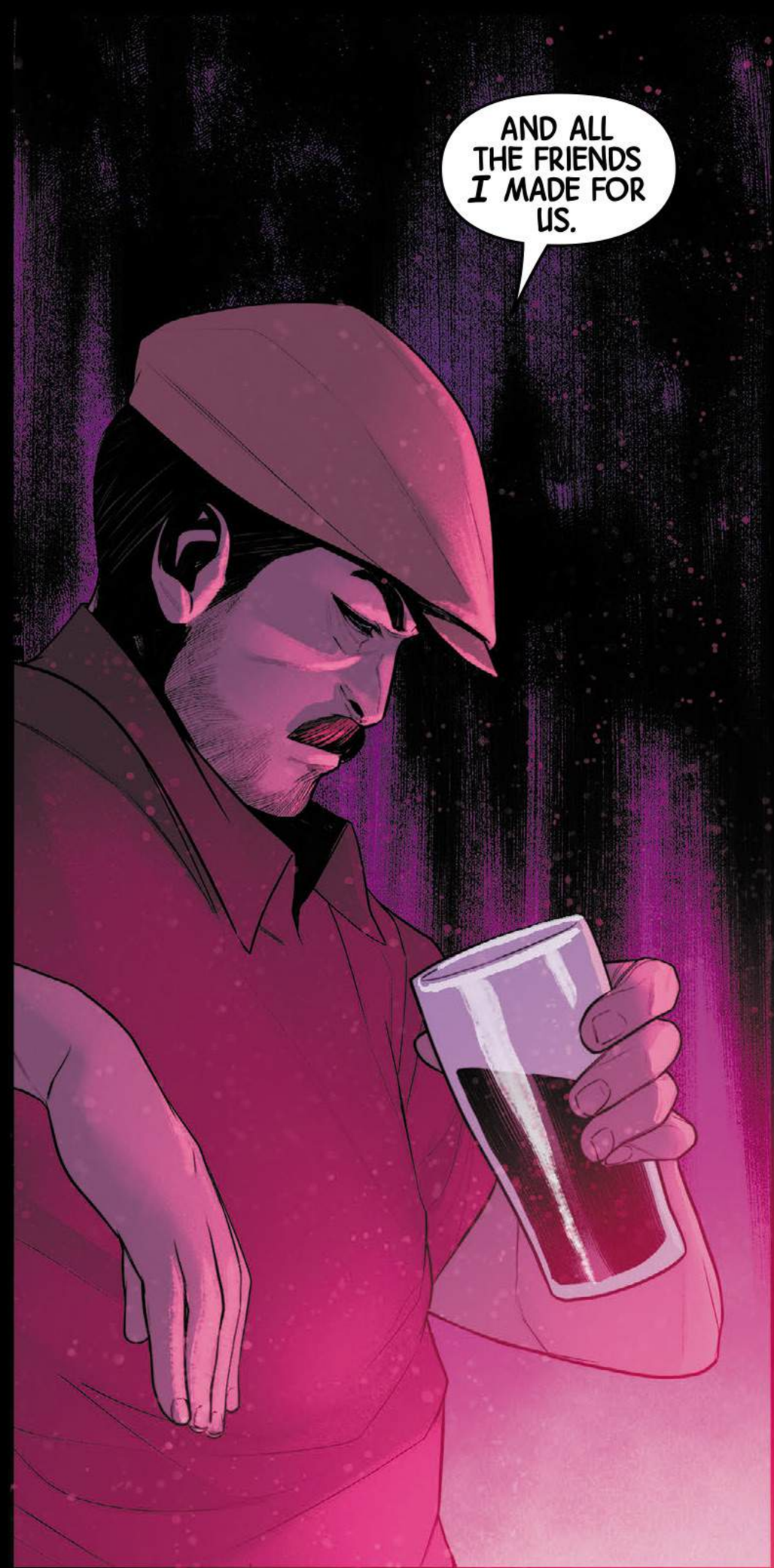
"I'VE BUILT SOMETHING HERE.

"AND I'VE DONE IT BY MYSELF.

"THE MIDNIGHT MISSION, MY MISSION, IT'S MINE.

"I NEED TO BE NORMAL.
"PEOPLE ARE COUNTING ON ME. MY PEOPLE.
"THE PUNISHER CALLS ME CRAZY. THE PUNISHER.
"I NEED...I NEED TO BE NORMAL.
"I HAVE TO BE IN CONTROL. OF MYSELF. OF MY LIFE. WHICH MEANS I HAVE TO BE IN CHARGE. WHETHER OR NOT YOU TWO LIKE THAT."

AND YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB OF IT. REALLY, EXCELLENT WORK, MARC.
I SEE YOU'VE LOST ALL THE MONEY I'VE MADE FOR US.


AND ALL THE FRIENDS I MADE FOR US.

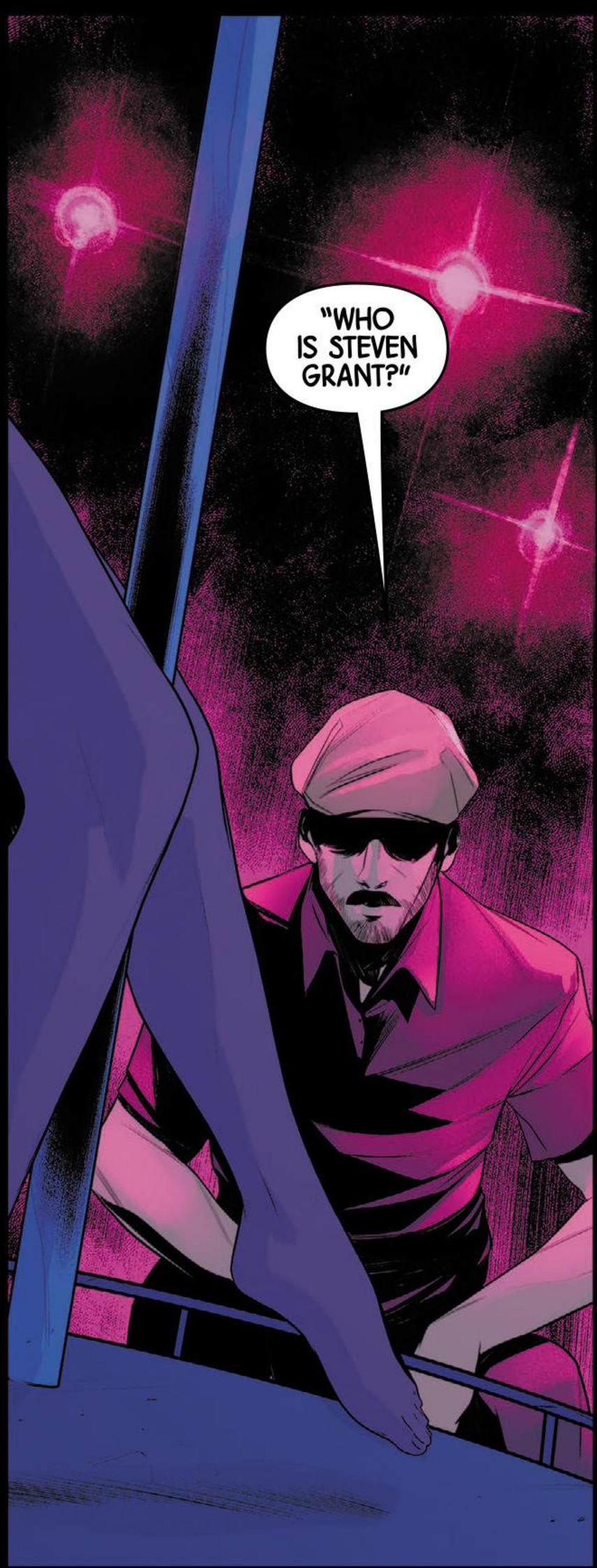
I HAVE MY OWN WAY OF MAKING MONEY.
AND AS FOR FRIENDS, HAVEN'T YOU HEARD?
I NEVER WANT TO BE LOVED.
THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS WIN.

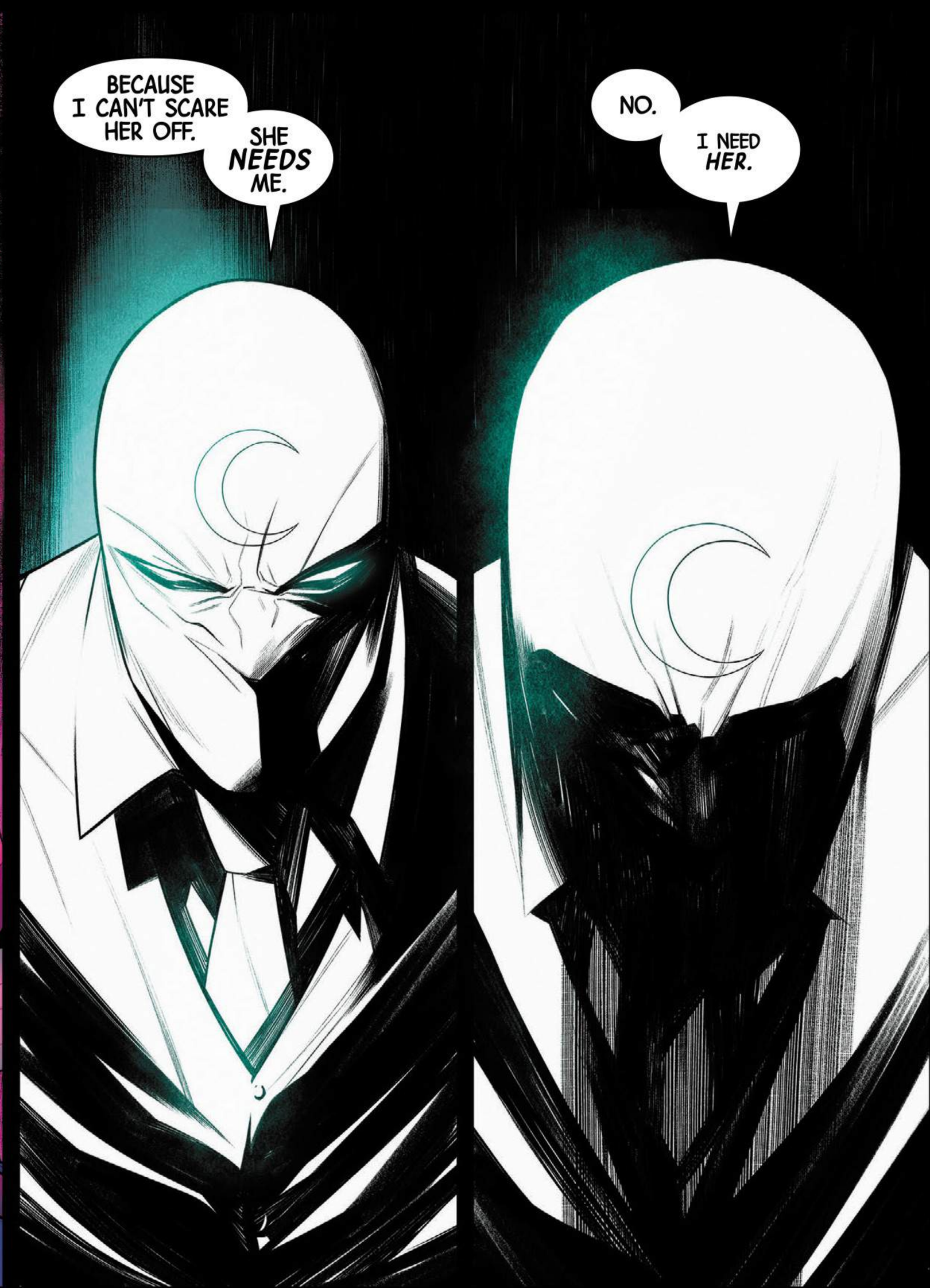
"'I NEVER WANT TO BE LOVED.'
"DON'T SAY THAT LIKE YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE IT.
"YOU CAN LIE TO THEM, TO REESE AND TIGRA AND SOLDIER AND YOU CAN EVEN LIE TO YOUR THERAPIST. I AIN'T GOING TO STOP YOU.
"HELL, LIE TO YOURSELF IF YOU LIKE.
"BUT I'M JAKE LOCKLEY. I'M A PART OF YOU, JUST LIKE GRANT IS, JUST LIKE YOU'RE A PART OF BOTH OF US.
"YOU THINK YOU CAN LIE TO ME? I'M A NEW YORK CABBIE, PAL. THE SCHMENDRICK HASN'T BEEN BORN YET WHO CAN LIE TO ME, NOT EVEN YOU.

"THAT'S WHY I KNOW, THAT LINE? 'I NEVER WANT TO BE LOVED'? IT'S FOR THE *RUBES.*
"*EVERYONE* WANTS TO BE LOVED.
"EVEN *YOU.*
"BUT YOU'RE AFRAID.
"BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO BUSY HATING YOURSELF AND BLAMING *US.*"

I'M NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING.

IS THAT A FACT? THEN WHY HAVEN'T YOU TOLD REESE THAT YOU HAVE D.I.D.?
WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER HER QUESTION?


"WHO IS STEVEN GRANT?"

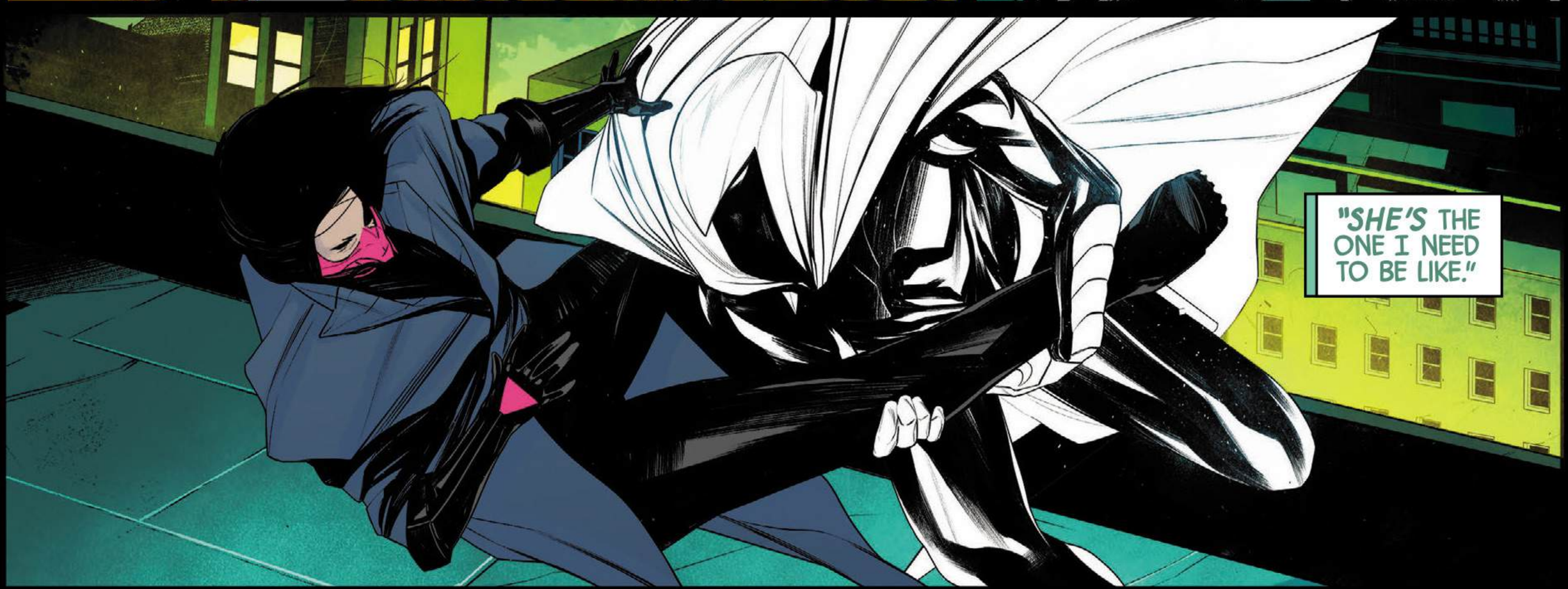

BECAUSE I CAN'T SCARE HER OFF.
SHE NEEDS ME.
NO.
I NEED HER.

"SHE'S GOOD FOR ME.

"EVERYONE I KNOW IS A SUPER HERO OR EX-HYDRA OR A RIVAL *FIST* LIKE *HUNTER'S MOON.*

"BUT REESE?

"SHE'S JUST A *NORMAL PERSON* MANAGING A *CONDITION.*


"*SHE'S* THE ONE I NEED TO BE LIKE."

MARC.
YOU DON'T *ACTUALLY* THINK THAT TELLING REESE ABOUT OUR D.I.D. WOULD SCARE HER OFF, DO YOU?

MAYBE.
BUT HERE'S ONE FOR YOU: WHAT IF IT *DIDN'T?*
LET'S LOOK AT THE PAIR OF YOU.

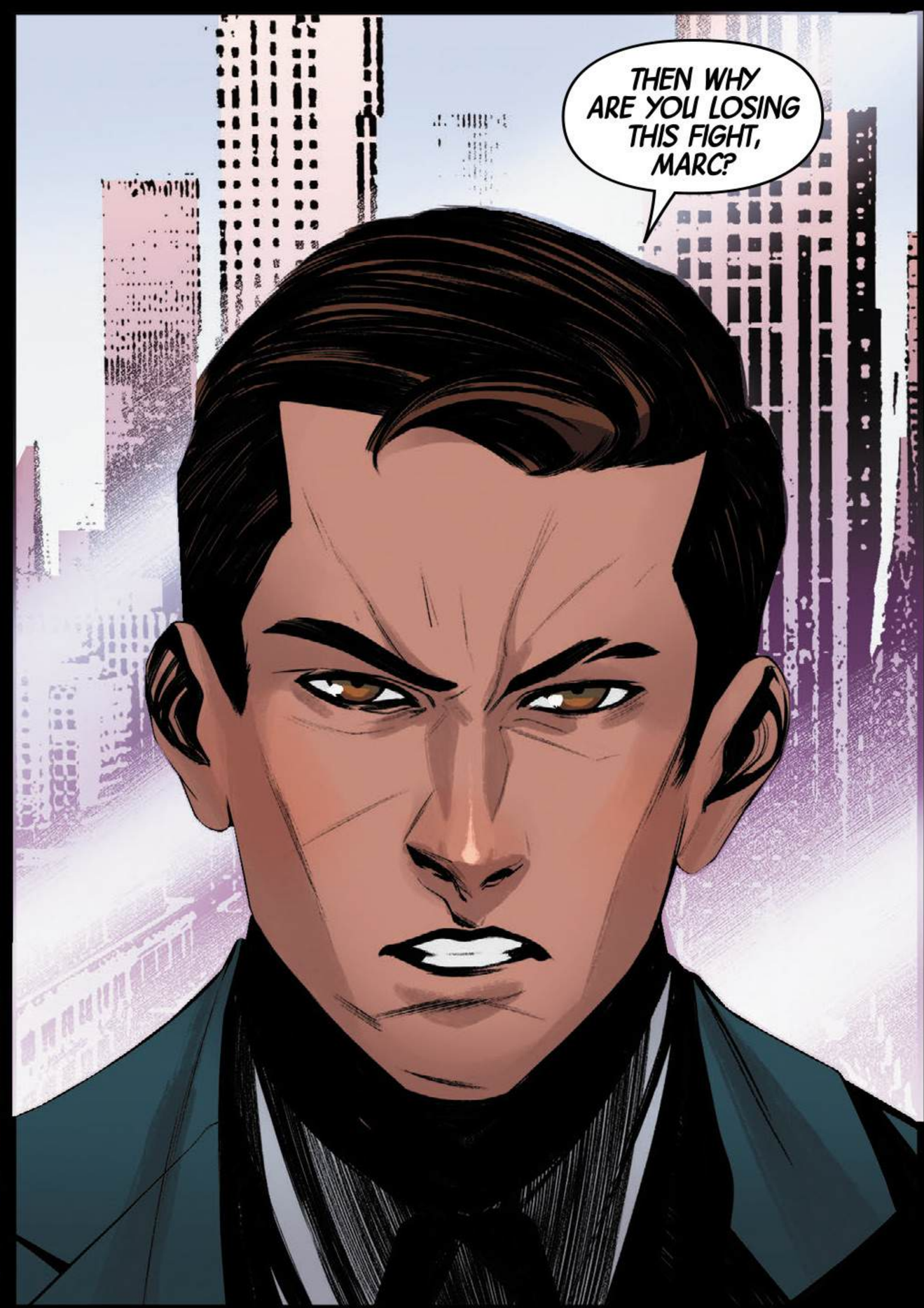
STEVEN GRANT. URBANE, SOPHISTICATED, CHARMING.

JAKE LOCKLEY. AFFABLE DIRTBAG, AVUNCULAR SCOUNDREL.

DON'T YOU SEE?
YOU'RE BOTH VERSIONS OF MARC SPECTOR WHO PEOPLE LIKE.
WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO BE AROUND *ME* WHEN THEY COULD BE AROUND *YOU?*

"YOU'RE DOING IT AGAIN. THROWING OUT NOISE. NOT ADDRESSING THE POINTS.
"NEITHER JAKE NOR I HAVE EVER WANTED TO TAKE ANYTHING FROM YOU."
THEN WHY DO ALL THE DANCERS IN JAKE'S CLUB LOOK LIKE MARLENE?
"HEY."
DO YOU THINK YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO LOVED HER?

I CAN MANAGE THINGS WITHOUT YOU.
I DON'T NEED YOU.
EITHER OF YOU. I CAN DO THIS ALONE.


THEN WHY ARE YOU LOSING THIS FIGHT, MARC?

"I--
"I--"

YOU SAY YOU NEED REESE. BECAUSE SHE SHOWS YOU HOW YOU WANT TO BE.
BUT SHE DOESN'T IGNORE HER VAMPIRISM, MARC. DOESN'T THINK SHE CAN CURE IT.
SHE LIVES WITH IT.
"I WILL NEVER BE CURED. THIS IS ALWAYS GOING TO BE WHO I AM." REMEMBER SAYING THAT?

YOU THINK YOU CAN GET BY WITHOUT US?
"WE ARE GOING TO BE OKAY. WE ARE GOING TO LIVE WITH WHO WE ARE."
MOON KNIGHT'S NOT JUST YOU. MOON KNIGHT IS ALL OF US.

"'I TAKE MY SCARS AND I MAKE OF THEM MY WEAPONS.'
"YOUR WORDS.
"BUT A WEAPON'S USELESS IF YOU LEAVE IT IN THE SHEATH.
"YOU'RE OPERATING AT ONE-THIRD CAPACITY, MARC.
"BUT WITHOUT US, YOU'RE TRYING TO PUNCH OUT SHADOWS.
"YOU CAN FIGHT. YOU ALWAYS COULD.
"YOU DON'T KNOW WHO THESE TWO ARE OR WHAT THEY CAN DO. AND THAT'S WHY THEY'RE KICKING THE HELL OUT OF YOU."

NO. NO.
I CAN'T--

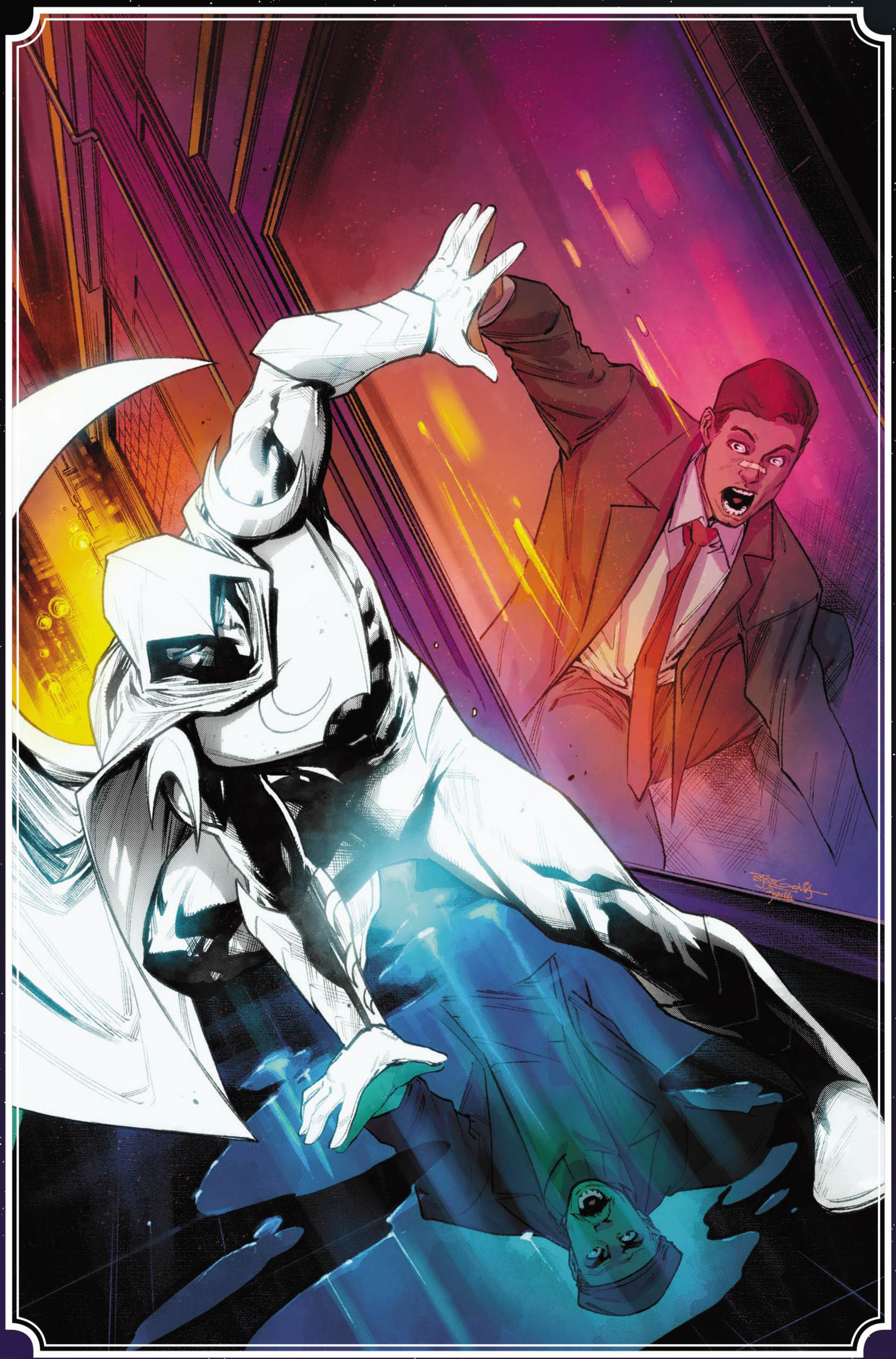
I CAN'T--

I CAN'T.

"I WAS WRONG.

"I CAN'T DO IT BY MYSELF.
"I NEVER COULD.

"I WAS AFRAID OF THE THINGS I'D DONE.
"I WAS AFRAID OF WHO I WAS.
"I THOUGHT I HAD TO MAKE A NEW VERSION OF MYSELF.
"BUT YOU'RE RIGHT. BOTH OF YOU."
IF WE'RE GOING TO FIX THINGS...
"...WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO IT TOGETHER."



15 MOONLIGHTING

"I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT YOUR D.I.D."

EXCUSE ME?

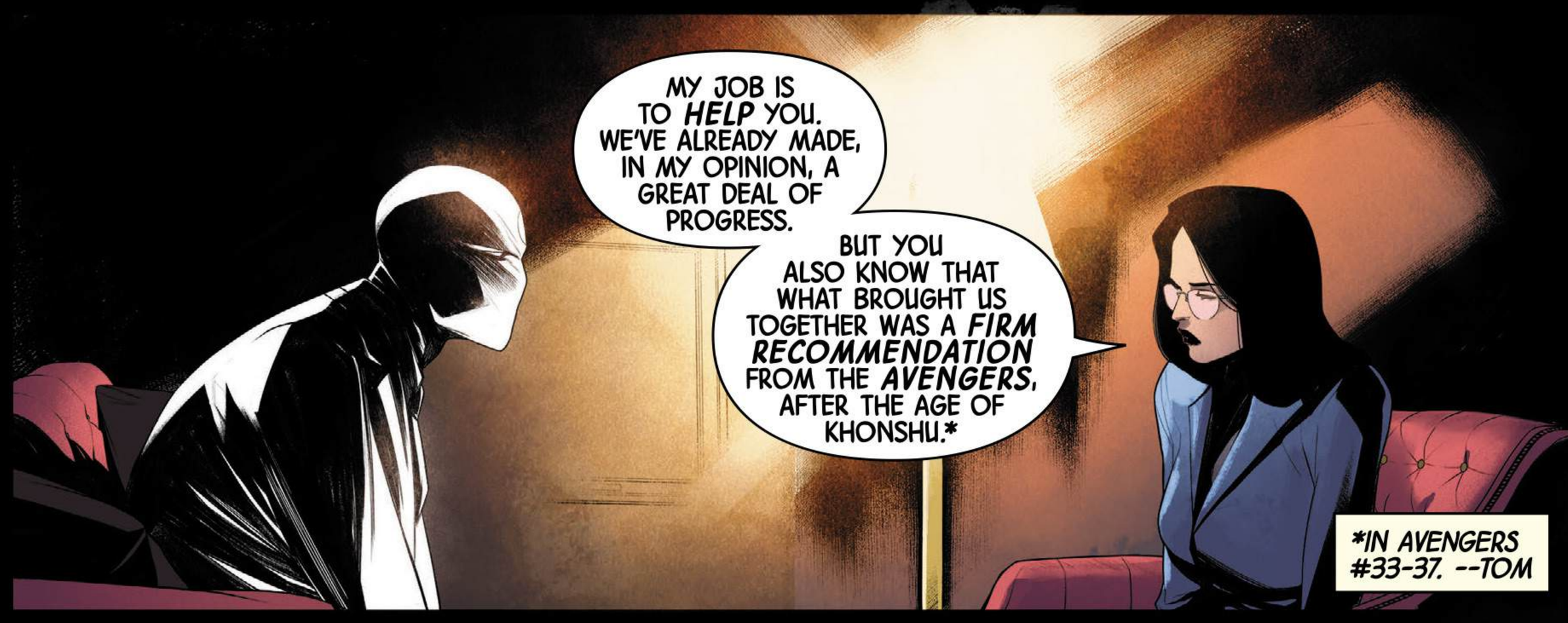
IT'S SOMETHING YOU'VE SAID MANY TIMES SINCE I BEGAN SEEING YOU. WE NEVER REALLY TALK ABOUT MY D.I.D.

YOU *KNOW* WHY WE DON'T TALK ABOUT YOUR DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER, MARC.

HUMOR ME.

FINE.

TRIAGE.

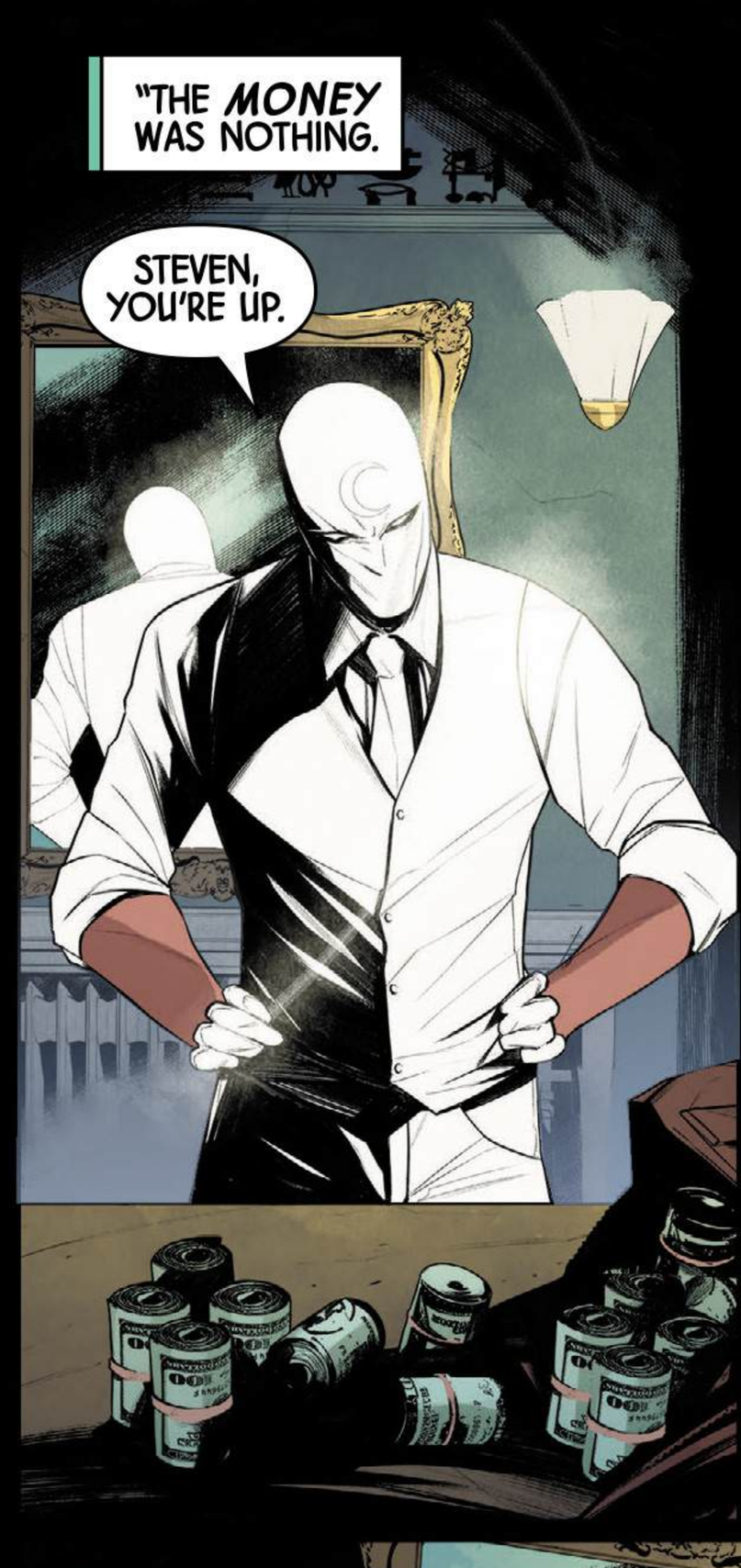

MY JOB IS TO HELP YOU. WE'VE ALREADY MADE, IN MY OPINION, A GREAT DEAL OF PROGRESS.
BUT YOU ALSO KNOW THAT WHAT BROUGHT US TOGETHER WAS A FIRM RECOMMENDATION FROM THE AVENGERS, AFTER THE AGE OF KHONSHU.*
*IN AVENGERS #33-37. --TOM

AS PART OF THAT, I AM REQUIRED TO EVALUATE WHAT LEVEL OF DANGER YOU POSE. IF YOU HAVE ANOTHER WORLD TAKEOVER IN YOU.
AS SUCH, I NEEDED TO FOCUS OUR WORK ON THE PART OF YOU THAT POTENTIALLY PRESENTED THE GREATEST THREAT.
AND THAT WAS MARC SPECTOR. NOT STEVEN GRANT OR JAKE LOCKLEY.
SO I'M A THREAT.

NO, MARC. I DON'T BELIEVE YOU ARE, NOT AFTER THE TIME WE'VE SPENT TOGETHER.
AND PLEASE DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE HURT BY THE IDEA.
...
PETULANCE DOESN'T SUIT YOU, MARC.
WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOUR BREAKTHROUGH.

"IT'S TAKEN SOME ADJUSTMENT.
IT'S ALL *CASH* THESE DAYS, GENTLEMEN.
NOTHING NEW FOR *YOU*, JAKE. STEVEN, YOU'LL HAVE TO EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE NOT USING YOUR CREDIT CARDS OR WHATEVER.

"I'D GROWN USED TO NOT SHARING.
I'M SURE YOU'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT.
RICH PEOPLE ARE ALLOWED TO BE *ECCENTRIC*.


"THE *MONEY* WAS NOTHING.
STEVEN, YOU'RE UP.

"IT'S THE *CONTROL*.
HRNN.

"CONTROL OF THE BODY, THE LIFE, THE THINGS I'VE BUILT.
AH.
IT'S GOOD TO BE *BACK*.

"IT'S NOT EASY TO *LET GO*."
GOOD *LORD*, MARC. HAVE YOU BEEN TAKING CARE OF US AT *ALL*?
FIRST THINGS FIRST.

"AND I'M PAYING FOR THIS FROM *YOUR* PILE."
MR. GRANT, I WILL WARN YOU NOW: THIS WILL BE AN *EXTENDED* TREATMENT TODAY.
WHATEVER YOU THINK IS BEST, MICHAEL. YOU ARE, AFTER ALL, THE EXPERT.
I PREFER *ARTIST*, MR. GRANT.
OF COURSE, FORGIVE ME.
I SAW *MARINES* WITH HEALTHIER HAIR IN *FALLUJAH.*
WHERE *HAVE* YOU BEEN HIDING YOURSELF, MR. GRANT? IT'S BEEN A VERY LONG TIME.
I'VE BEEN *OFF THE GRID,* MICHAEL.
DOING SOME AGGRESSIVE RECENTERING. TRYING SOME THINGS OUT.
ALL VERY *EARTHY*, VERY *PRIMITIVE*. VERY *HUMBLING.*
IT SOUNDS *AWFUL,* MR. GRANT.
IT *WAS,* MICHAEL. IT *WAS.*
NO *16-YEAR-OLD SCOTCHES* IN THE WILDERNESS.
TCH.
NOR *CONDITIONER,* IT WOULD APPEAR.

--AND SO THEY CONVINCED ME THAT I WAS WRONG.
JUST LIKE THAT?
JUST LIKE THAT.
I MUST CONFESS TO SOME *SURPRISE.*
ARE YOU IMPLYING THAT I'M AN *UNREASONABLE* MAN, DR. STERMAN?
AND NOW HE'S *JOKING.*
AM I SPEAKING TO MARC SPECTOR? SURELY THIS IS THE WORK OF THE FAMOUS STEVEN GRANT. OR JAKE LOCKLEY, PERHAPS.
NO, YOU'RE STUCK WITH *ME,* DR. STERMAN.
TRIAGE AND ALL OF THAT.
I *AM* UNREASONABLE, OF COURSE.
THAT'S WHAT I'M *FOR.* I'M THE ONE WHO DOES THE FIGHTING, THE ONE WHO TAKES THE PUNCHES, THE ONE WHO SPITS OUT THE BLOOD AND TEETH.
THEY GATHER THE INTEL, THE *INFORMATION.* STEVEN, FROM THE HOUSES OF THE RICH AND POWERFUL. JAKE, WELL...

I'M HOME!

JAKE!!!

JAKE!!!

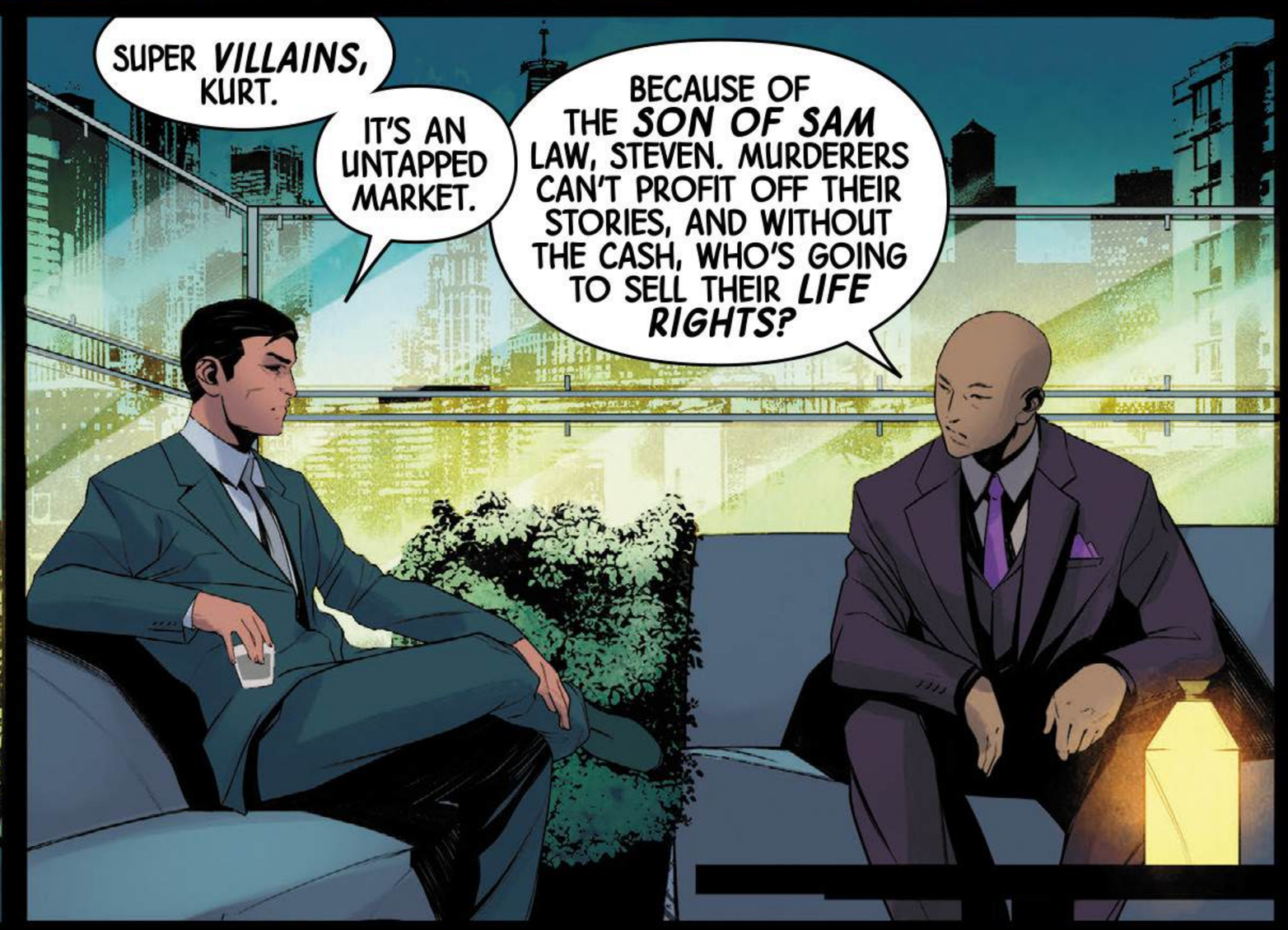
JAKE!!!

JAKE!!!

SET 'EM UP, NAOMI, SET 'EM UP!
YOU EVER SEEN ME DRINK ANYTHING ELSE, BEAUTIFUL?
RUM, JAKE?
YOU ALWAYS *WERE* A BIT OF A PIRATE.
GOT IT IN *ONE.*
L'CHAIM!
SO WHERE YOU *BEEN,* LOCKLEY? YOU *RETIRE* LIKE YOU ALWAYS TALKED ABOUT? FOLLOWED THAT RUM BACK TO THE CARIBBEAN?
NO ONE'S SEEN YOU IN A *DOG'S AGE.*
DOES BIG CLAUDE PEETERS KNOW YOU'RE BACK?
HE *SWORE* HE'D--
PSSH, PLEASE. THE DAY I'M SCARED OF AN ANGRY *FRENCHMAN--*
YOU *KNOW* BIG CLAUDE'S *BELGIAN,* LOCKLEY. HE DON'T LIKE IT WHEN PEOPLE CALL HIM *FRENCH.*
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH.
LISTEN, NAOMI--WHAT ARE YOU HEARING ABOUT *VAMPIRES* THESE DAYS?

--HAD SOME *IDEAS* WHEN I WAS OUT THERE IN THE WILDERNESS, KURT. IDEAS *YOU* CAN HELP ME WITH.
WHERE'S THE *BIG MONEY* IN FILM THESE DAYS?
SUPER HEROES.
EXACTLY.

BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN INTERESTED IN WHERE THE MONEY *IS*.
I WANT TO BE WHERE THE MONEY'S *GOING TO BE*.


SUPER *VILLAINS*, KURT.
IT'S AN UNTAPPED MARKET.
BECAUSE OF THE *SON OF SAM* LAW, STEVEN. MURDERERS CAN'T PROFIT OFF THEIR STORIES, AND WITHOUT THE CASH, WHO'S GOING TO SELL THEIR *LIFE RIGHTS?*

CORRECT.
THAT *IS* A LAW THAT EXISTS.
FOR PEOPLE CONVICTED IN THE UNITED STATES.

I WANT YOU TO FIND OUT WHO *THESE TWO* ARE AND WORK UP SOME DOSSIERS.
I DON'T THINK THEY'RE AMERICANS, AND THEY HAVE GREAT LOOKS. COULD BE *SOMETHING* THERE.
SURE. HALF UP FRONT, 20% BONUS FOR 24-HOUR TURNAROUND. THAT WORK?

YOU'RE THE BEST, KURT.
CASH OKAY?

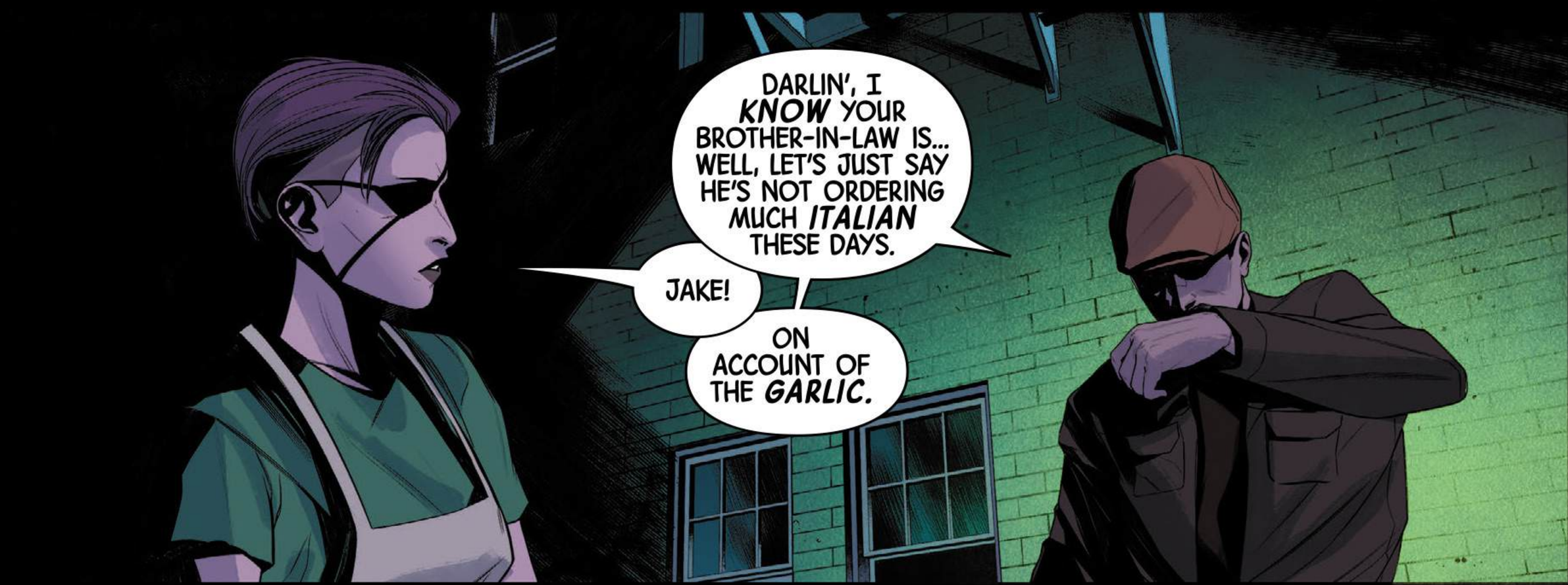
YOU CAN'T GO TO WAR WITHOUT GOOD INTELLIGENCE.
WITH ZODIAC, I WAS PUNCHING AT SHADOWS. HE HAD ME ON THE BACK FOOT THE WHOLE TIME. I NEVER SHOULD HAVE LET HIM GET AS FAR AS HE DID.
WITH THE STRUCTURE, WITH THOSE TWO SUPER-KILLERS THAT THE TUTOR SENT AFTER ME, THEY TOOK ME APART.
BECAUSE THEY KNEW WHAT I COULD DO, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THEY WERE CAPABLE OF.

MARC SPECTOR IS A FIST. A HAND CLOSED FOR VIOLENCE, MADE A WEAPON.

BUT A FIST NEEDS TO KNOW WHO TO PUNCH, AND HOW AND WHERE TO PUNCH THEM.
NEEDS EYES. AND EARS.

AND HOW DO STEVEN AND JAKE FEEL ABOUT THIS?
ABOUT BEING RECRUITED INTO YOUR WAR?
OR RATHER, THIS WAR?
...
YOU KNOW, I'VE NEVER ASKED THEM.

WHY YOU ASKING ME ABOUT THAT, JAKE?!


DARLIN', I KNOW YOUR BROTHER-IN-LAW IS... WELL, LET'S JUST SAY HE'S NOT ORDERING MUCH ITALIAN THESE DAYS.
JAKE!
ON ACCOUNT OF THE GARLIC.

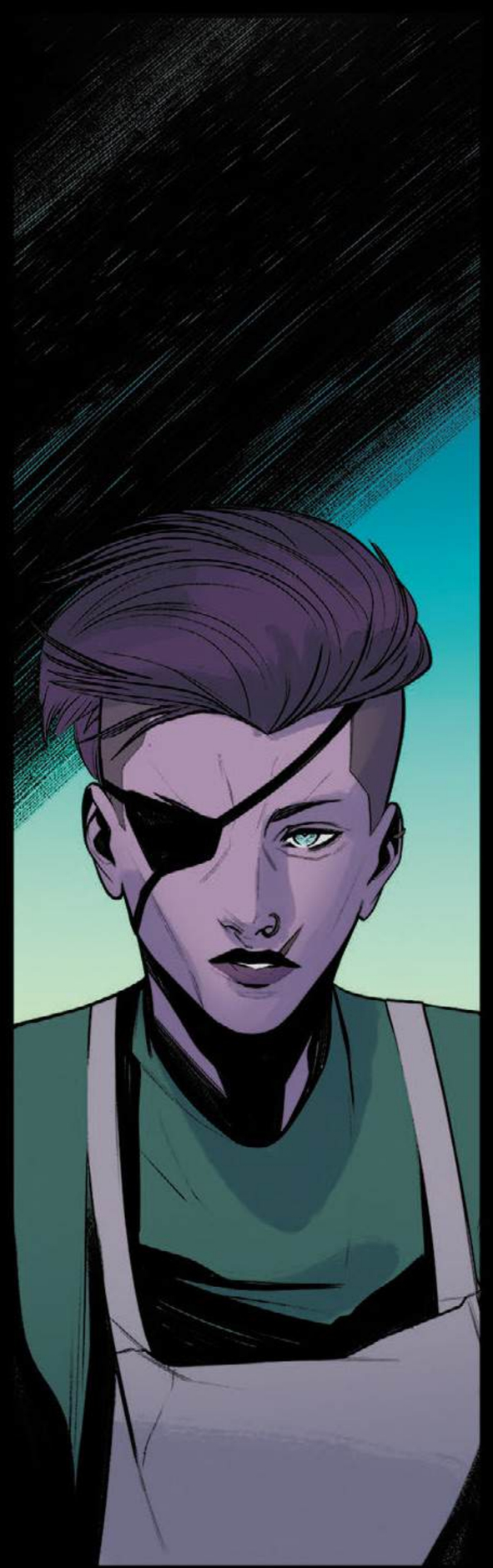
REUBEN HAD TO LIE LOW.
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR A VAM--
--FOR SOMEONE WITH HIS CONDITION--
--IN THE CITY THESE DAYS.

HUNTERS?
HE CLOCK A GUY WITH SHADES, A GRIP OF SWORDS AND A BAD ATTITUDE MAKING THE ROUNDS BY ANY CHANCE?

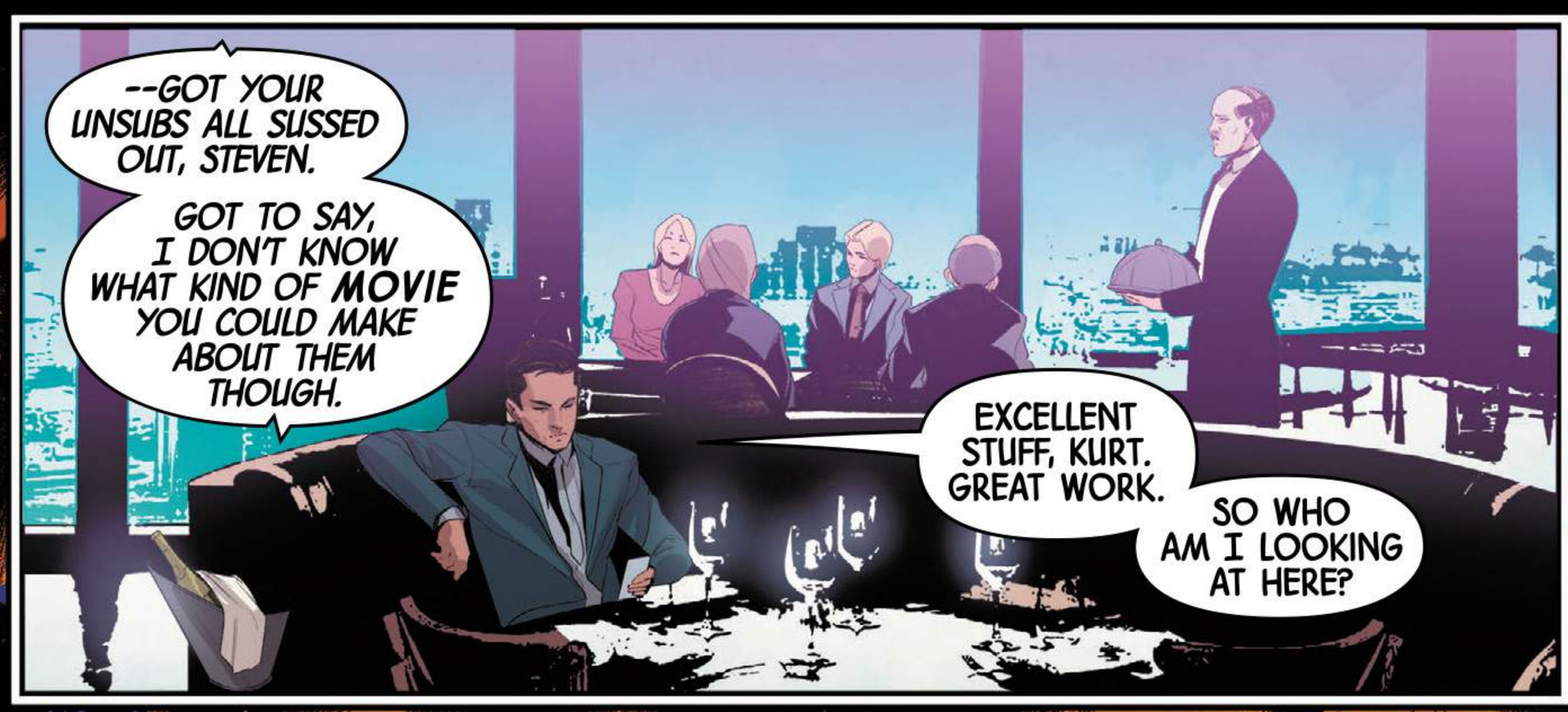
NOTHIN' LIKE THAT. IT'S A VAMPIRE THING.
IT'S... POLITICS, IS WHAT HE CALLS IT.
THERE'S A BIG VAMP OUTFIT IN THE CITY, AND THE WORD'S GONE OUT: IT'S BEN FRANKLIN TIME, YOU GET ME?

YEAH.
"JOIN OR DIE."
SO WHERE'S REUBEN AT, NAOMI?
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT "LIE LOW" MEANS, LOCKLEY?
HE'S HIDING.

I'M LOOKING TO MAKE ALL THIS RIGHT, NAOMI. BUT I GOT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.
I MAY BE A SCOUNDREL BUT YOU KNOW I AIN'T A VILLAIN. WHEN HAVE I DONE ANYONE WRONG?
BIG CLAUDE--
EXCEPT FOR THE FRENCHMAN.
HE'S--
I KNOW HE'S BELGIAN.



CHINATOWN.
REUBEN'S IN CHINATOWN.



"THIS CHARMER IS THE NEMEAN.

"I COULDN'T GET A REAL NAME. GREEK SUPER-ASSASSIN.

"THIS IS FOOTAGE OF HIM THROWING DOWN WITH THE E.K.A.M. IN ATHENS FROM LAST YEAR.

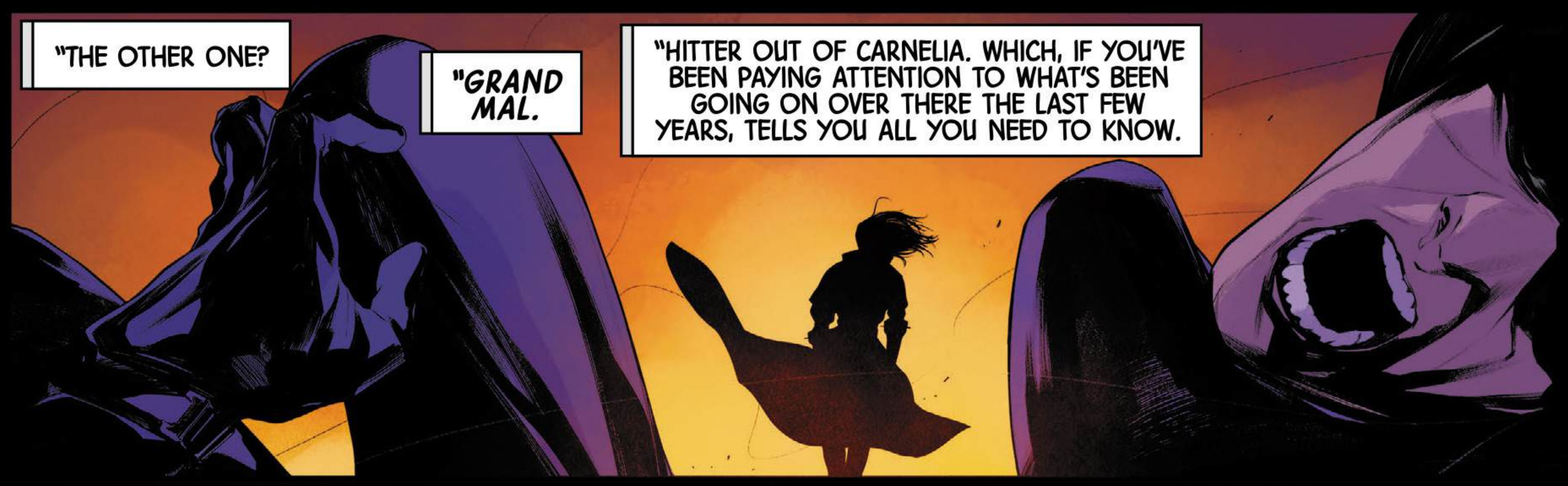
"SEVEN DEAD.

"ACCORDING TO WHAT I COULD GET, HE'S LIKE THE NEMEAN LION OF MYTH-- UNBREAKABLE SKIN.

"THAT AND HE'S A BRAWLER, SOME KIND OF PANKRATIONIST.

"IF YOU WANT SOMEONE DEAD AND YOU'VE GOT THE MONEY, HE'LL GET IT DONE.

"AND HE'LL GET IT DONE MESSY, ACCORDING TO THOSE IN THE KNOW.


"THE OTHER ONE?
"GRAND MAL.
"HITTER OUT OF CARNELIA. WHICH, IF YOU'VE BEEN PAYING ATTENTION TO WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON OVER THERE THE LAST FEW YEARS, TELLS YOU ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW.

"SHE'S BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN THE FACTIONAL KNIFE FIGHTS SINCE THEIR GOVERNMENT GOT MASSACRED.

"WHAT SHE CAN DO IS ALL IN THE NAME--HER GAUNTLETS ARE DESIGNED TO SHORT OUT HER TARGETS' NERVOUS SYSTEM. CAUSE SEIZURES.
"SOME KIND OF ELECTRONIC DIM MAK."

IT... SOUNDS... PAINFUL.
GLAD IT'S NOTHING YOU OR I WILL EVER EXPERIENCE, THAT'S FOR SURE.
BUT LIKE I SAID--I'D STEER CLEAR OF THEM, STEVEN. THEY'RE NOT FUN BAD GUYS LIKE, I DON'T KNOW, BIG WHEEL OR SOMETHING.

LEAVE IT, STEVEN.
OH, BELIEVE ME, KURT. I'M CONVINCED.

"*STEVEN GRANT* ISN'T GETTING ANYWHERE *NEAR* THOSE TWO."

SO, WHAT IS IT THAT *YOU* DRINK?

EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU ASKING ME OUT, DOCTOR?

MORE JOKES!

MERE CURIOSITY, MARC. SCOTCH FOR THE SERIOUS MR. GRANT. RUM FOR THE RASCAL JAKE. BUT WHAT ABOUT *MARC SPECTOR?*

VODKA.

ICE COLD.

I SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST. SOUTH AMERICA. *HOT* PLACES.

BUT A SHOT OF VODKA, AS COLD AS YOU COULD GET IT?

LIKE AN OILY BULLET OF *ICE* IN YOUR STOMACH, NO MATTER WHERE YOU WERE OR HOW HOT IT WAS.

LIKE A PIECE OF CHICAGO WINTER. IT WAS HOW MY PARENTS DRANK IT.

BESIDES, I WEAR WHITE.

IT STAINS EASY.

THERE'S SOMETHING TO THIS, FELLAS.
FOR WHATEVER REASON, THE STRUCTURE DOESN'T GO INTO CHINATOWN.

VAMPIRES ARE TERRITORIAL.
LIKE SOMEONE ELSE I KNOW →COUGHCOUGH← MARC.
WHICH MEANS: IF THE TUTOR IS MAKING A PLAY FOR NEW YORK AS HIS TERRITORY EXCEPTING CHINATOWN, THEN CHINATOWN...

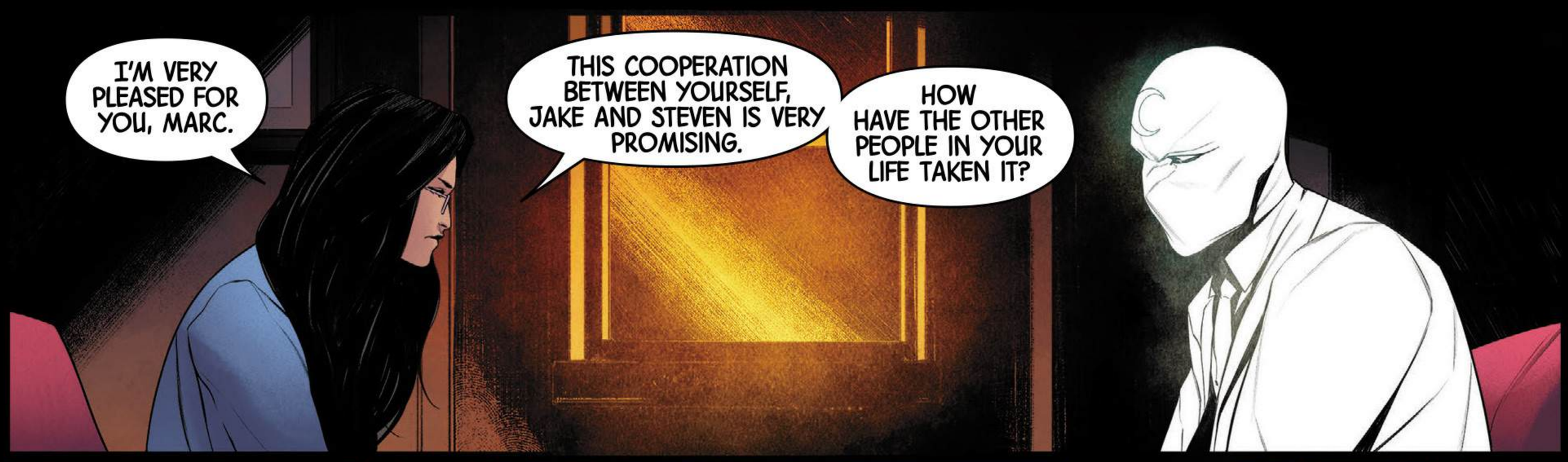
...IS SOMEONE ELSE'S TERRITORY. SOMEONE HE'S AFRAID OF.
AND THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY IS--

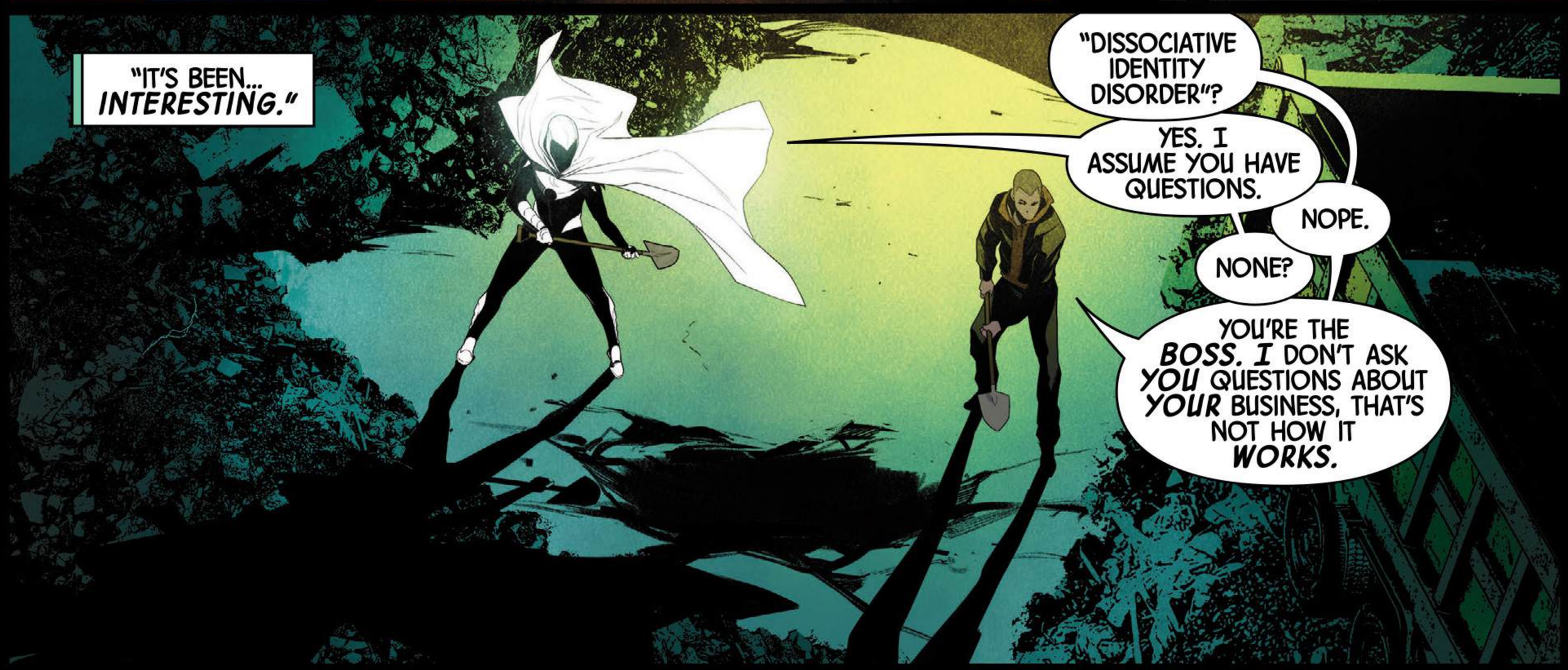
TALKING TO YOURSELF, LOCKLEY?
S'NOT HEALTHY.
WHUFFF
HEYYY!
BIG CLAUDE, I WAS JUST--
GOT A LOT OF BRASS, LOCKLEY.
GOT A LOT OF BRASS, SHOWING YOUR FACE AROUND HERE.
BUT NOW I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU APART.
YOU AND YOUR SMART MOUTH AIN'T WALKING OUT OF THIS ALLEY, LOCKLEY.
YOU--HEFF-- GOT THAT RIGHT, CLAUDE.

"...I STILL HAVE MY USES."

HI.

I'M MARC.


I'M VERY PLEASED FOR YOU, MARC.
THIS COOPERATION BETWEEN YOURSELF, JAKE AND STEVEN IS VERY PROMISING.
HOW HAVE THE OTHER PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE TAKEN IT?


"IT'S BEEN... *INTERESTING.*"
"DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER"?
YES. I ASSUME YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
NOPE.
NONE?
YOU'RE THE *BOSS. I* DON'T ASK *YOU* QUESTIONS ABOUT *YOUR* BUSINESS, THAT'S NOT HOW IT *WORKS.*

FAIR ENOUGH, THEN.
IT'S BEEN A FEW HOURS. LET'S DIG THIS VAMPIRE UP AND SEE IF HE WANTS TO TALK ABOUT *CHINATOWN.*
YOU'RE GOOD TO HEAD THERE TOMORROW?
THANKS, SOLDIER.
YOU'RE THE *BOSS*--I'M WITH YOU, WHEREVER YOU NEED.

DON'T KNOW WHAT I EXPECTED. SOLDIER SAID HE WAS MY GUY FOR LIFE. HE'S NOT THE TYPE TO CHANGE, EVEN IF THAT LIFE WAS *ENDED.*
HUNTER'S MOON, ON THE OTHER HAND...

I TELL YOU ABOUT MY D.I.D. AND YOU HIT ME?
NO. NOT THAT.
THAT'S A GOOD THING. A HOLY THING.
THE FACETS OF YOUR MIND REFLECT THE ASPECTS OF KHONSHU.
KHONSHU HAS ALWAYS HAD MANY FACES. AS HAVE HIS FISTS, THROUGH THE GIFT OF THE CHORUS.
THIS IS NO DIFFERENT.
THEN WHY DID YOU HIT ME?
YOUR PLAN.
YOUR VENTURE INTO CHINATOWN, HAT IN HAND. SEEKING ALLIANCES AGAINST YOUR ENEMY.
IT'S BLASPHEMY. OF THE BASEST SORT.
REESE AND HER FRIENDS-- THEY'RE YOUNG. THEY'VE DONE NO EVIL.
BUT NO VAMPIRE GAINS THE POWER OF THIS ONE IN CHINATOWN WITHOUT BECOMING A MONSTER.
AND THE FIST OF KHONSHU DOES NOT TREAT WITH MONSTERS, MR. SPECTOR.
THE FIST OF KHONSHU KILLS THEM.

IT'S NOT LIKE THE TWO OF YOU HAVE EVER SEEN EYE TO EYE.
AND WHAT ABOUT...?
"RIGHT. WHAT ABOUT *REESE*."
SO YOU HAVE D.I.D.
I DO.
SOME BAD THINGS HAPPENED TO ME WHEN I WAS A KID. D.I.D. WAS HOW MY MIND DEALT WITH IT.
AND NOW, WITH THE WAY KHONSHU ALTERED MY BRAIN, IT PRESENTS *DIFFERENTLY* THAN IT *NORMALLY* DOES...
I'M SORRY. I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU ABOUT THIS BEFORE.
I'VE BEEN *STRUGGLING.* WITH *THIS,* AND OTHER THINGS.
IT'S FINE. I *PUSHED* BECAUSE, WELL, I *MET* STEVEN.
LOOK. I KNOW YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT TO *PROVE* SOMETHING. TO THE WORLD, TO YOUR PEOPLE, TO THE MASK-AND-CAPE SET.
MAYBE YOU DO. I DON'T KNOW. I'M NOT YOU.
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO PROVE ANYTHING TO ME.
I DIDN'T *KNOW YOU* BEFORE ALL THE STUFF YOU SAY YOU'RE MAKING UP FOR.
I CARE ABOUT WHO YOU ARE *NOW.*
AND WHO YOU ARE NOW IS ENOUGH.

THANK YOU, REESE.
...
SO DO WE HUG NOW OR SOMETHING?
WHAT?
EW, NO.

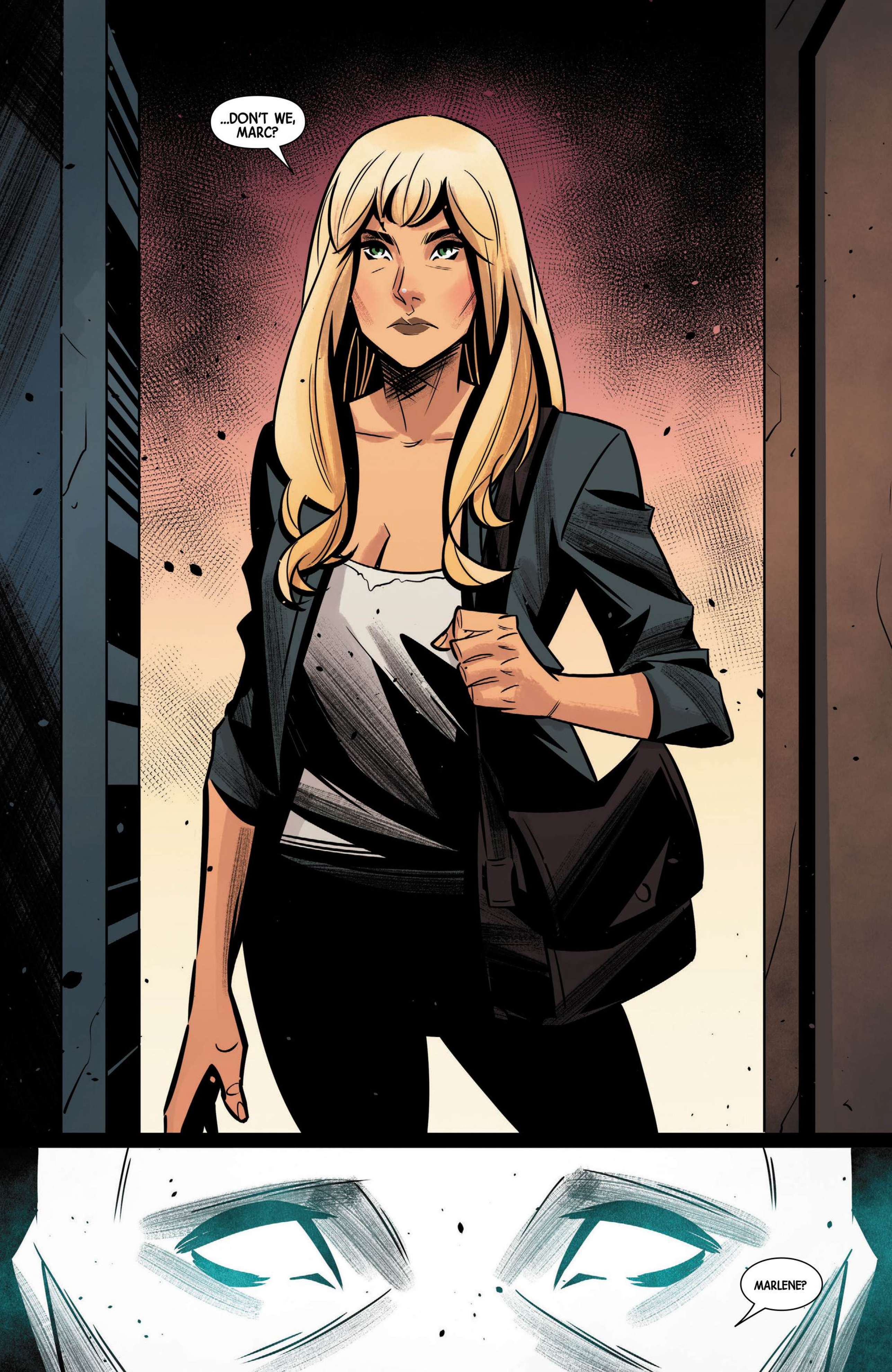
SO.

SO. CHINATOWN.

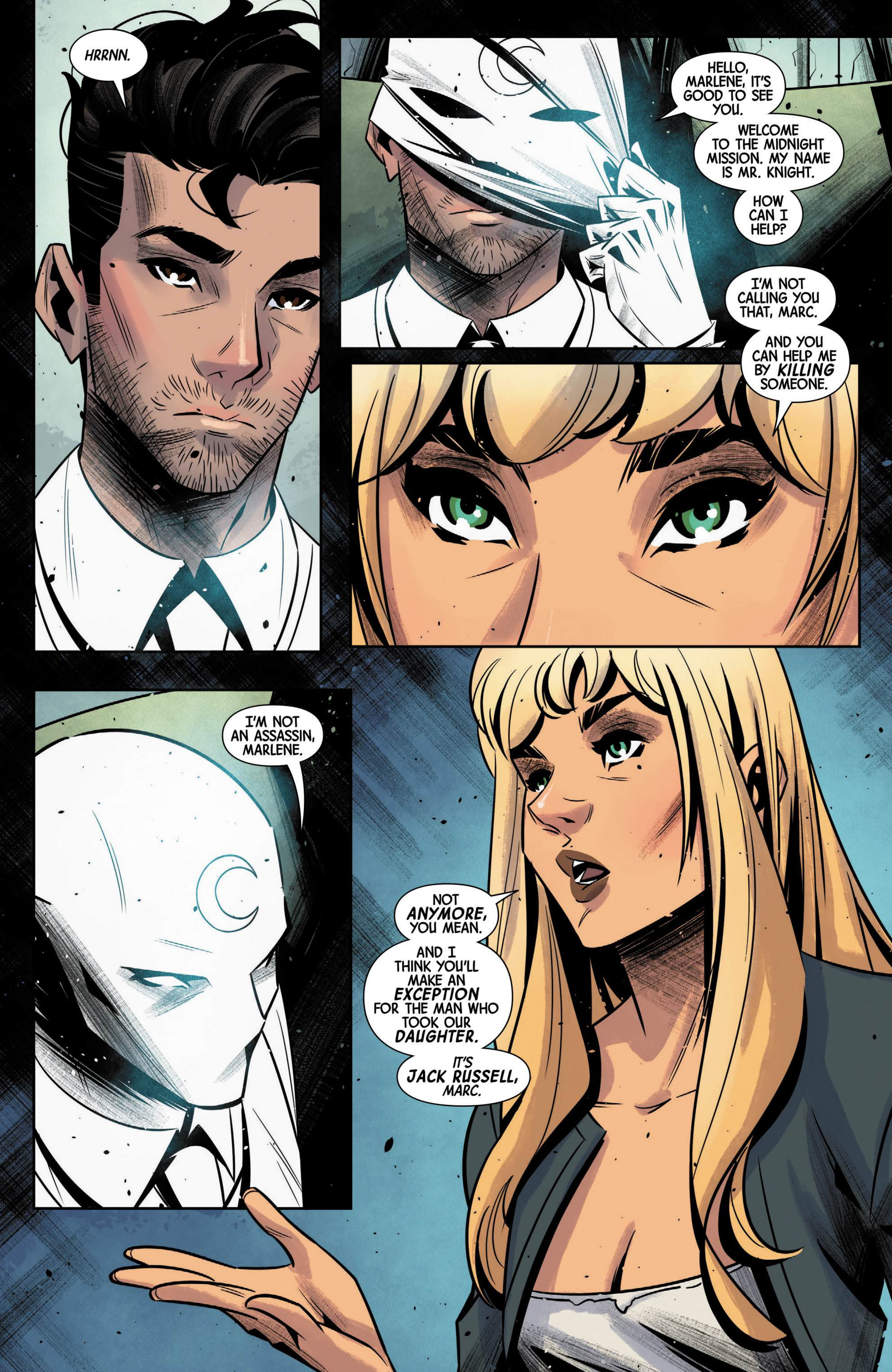
YES.
CHINATOWN.

ANNUAL HOMECOMING

HEY!
HEY! HOLD UP, YOU CAN'T JUST WALK IN THERE--
MR. KNIGHT! SOME LADY WITH NO MANNERS IS HERE!
IT'S FINE, REESE.
LET HER IN.
TCH.
YOU'RE LUCKY THAT HE'S NICER THAN I AM.
OH, I THINK WE BOTH KNOW THAT'S NOT TRUE...


...DON'T WE, MARC?
MARLENE?

AGH!
MARLENE! HI!
MARC?
NO, UH, SORRY, IT'S ME. JAKE.
THE SHOCK OF SEEING YOU... INVOLUNTARY SWITCH. YOU KNOW.
I NEED TO SPEAK TO MARC, JAKE.
RIGHT, YEAH, OF COURSE, SORRY.
IT'S JUST... IT MEANS A LOT, TO SEE YOU HERE. TO ALL OF US, YOU KNOW?
I KNOW, JAKE. BUT THERE'S DANGER AND NOT A LOT OF TIME, AND I NEED TO SPEAK TO MARC.
RIGHT. RIGHT.


HRRNN.
HELLO, MARLENE, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU.
WELCOME TO THE MIDNIGHT MISSION. MY NAME IS MR. KNIGHT.
HOW CAN I HELP?
I'M NOT CALLING YOU THAT, MARC.
AND YOU CAN HELP ME BY KILLING SOMEONE.
I'M NOT AN ASSASSIN, MARLENE.
NOT ANYMORE, YOU MEAN.
AND I THINK YOU'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION FOR THE MAN WHO TOOK OUR DAUGHTER.
IT'S JACK RUSSELL, MARC.

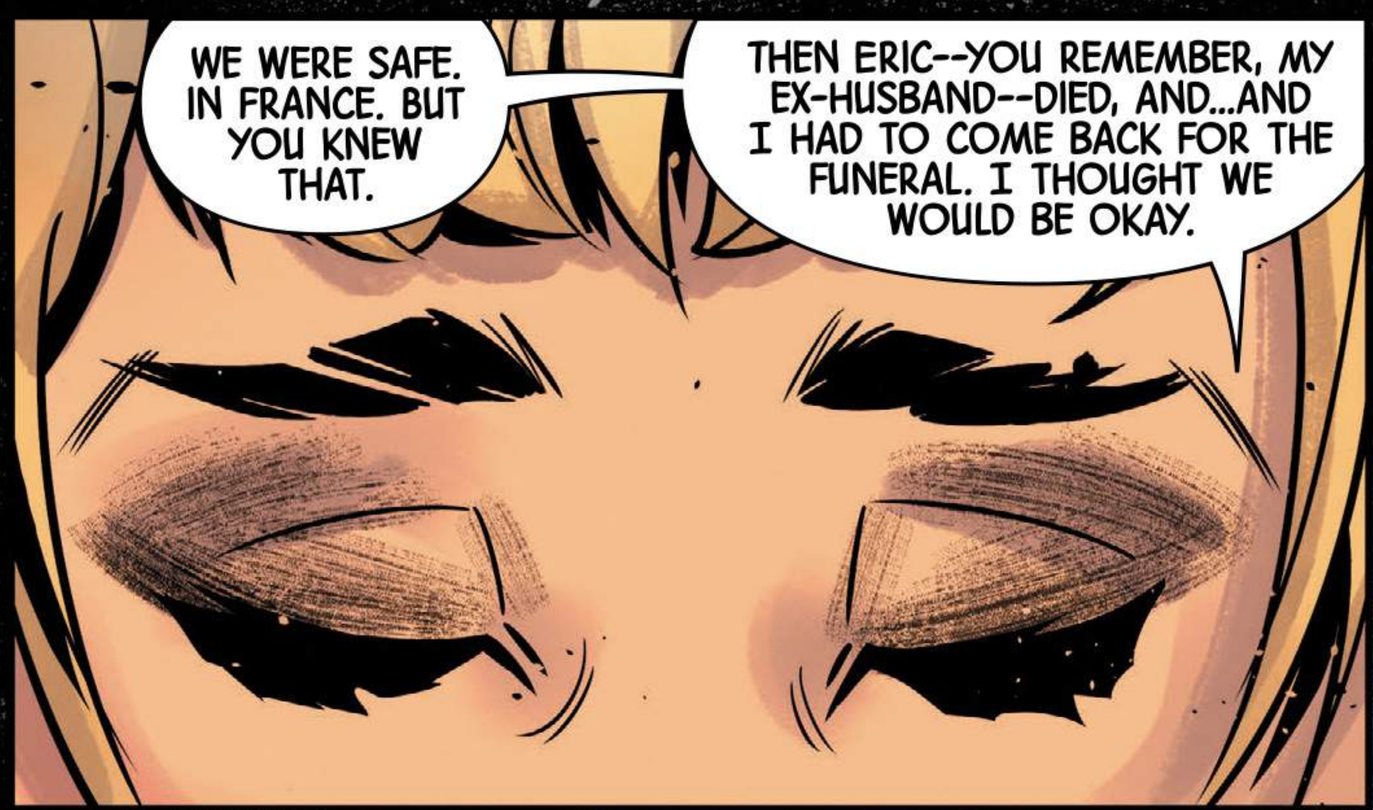
"THE WEREWOLF HAS DIATRICE."
THIS IS SUICIDE.
THIS IS MOON KNIGHT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.
YOU KNOW WHAT HE DOES TO ANYONE WHO CROSSES HIM, AND WE HAVE HIS DAUGHTER!
THEN LEAVE, COWARD! GO ON, TUCK THAT TAIL BETWEEN YOUR LEGS AND RUN!
I'M NO COWARD!
OH YEAH? I'M NOT SCARED OF MOON KNIGHT!
YOU SHOULD BE.
CARL'S RIGHT.
MOON KNIGHT IS DANGEROUS. AND WE DO HAVE HIS DAUGHTER.
HE'S OUR SLAVE MASTER'S SHERIFF. HIS MANTLE WAS CREATED TO OPPRESS US. THE BOOT ON OUR NECKS.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE TO DO WHAT WE'RE HERE TO DO.
MOON KNIGHT MAY BE THE SCOURGE FORETOLD.
BUT I'M THE KING OF ALL WOLVES.
I READ THE DARKHOLD AND KEPT MY SANITY.
I FOUGHT CHALLENGERS FOR LEADERSHIP FROM ALL THE PACKS IN NORTH AMERICA AND WON IN THE SACRED RITES AT THE CONCLAVE OF THE BOREAL CORDILLERA.
I PROVED MYSELF IN THE RUNNING BATTLES WITH THE WENDIGO IN THE HUDSON BAY WARS LAST WINTER.
I KNOW NO ONE BUT YOU TWO BELIEVES IN THE PROPHECY. BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER--ALL I NEEDED WAS THE TITLE.
I NEEDED TO BE THE KING OF ALL WOLVES TO DO THIS.

"AND I'M GOING TO FREE US ALL."
RRRAAAAAGGHH!

RUSSELL.
RUSSELL.

MR....
MR. KNIGHT?


WE WERE SAFE. IN FRANCE. BUT YOU KNEW THAT.
THEN ERIC--YOU REMEMBER, MY EX-HUSBAND--DIED, AND...AND I HAD TO COME BACK FOR THE FUNERAL. I THOUGHT WE WOULD BE OKAY.

THEY AMBUSHED US. TOOK HER.
BUT I RECOGNIZED RUSSELL, EVEN THOUGH IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME. EVEN THOUGH HE'S CHANGED.
I RECOGNIZED HIS *VOICE* WHEN HE TOLD ME WHERE YOU COULD *FIND HIM.* BECAUSE HE *WANTS* YOU TO COME TO HIM.
THEY TOOK HER BECAUSE OF *YOU,* MARC. THIS IS *YOUR FAULT.*

"THEY *NEED* HER, YOU SEE.

"THEY NEED HER TO KILL *KHONSHU.*"

HERE YOU GO, CHICKEN.

BEST EAT UP WHILE IT'S WARM.

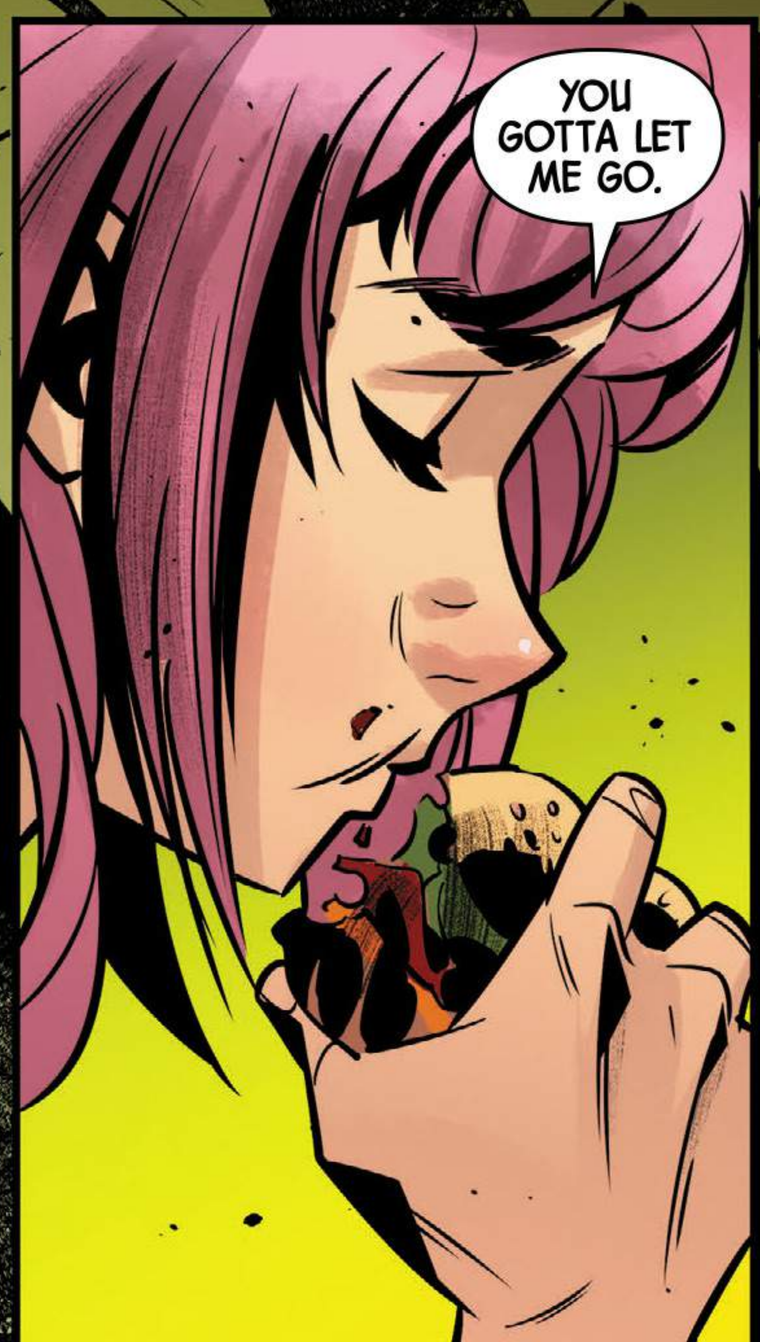
THANKS.

LISTEN, MISTER--

JACK.

MISTER JACK--

JUST JACK.



THERE'S LIVING IN SLAVERY.
"SLAVERY TO A GOD WHO BOUND A PEOPLE CURSED WITH A DISEASE TO HIS SERVICE.
"BOUND THEM TO HIS SYMBOL. TO THE MOON.
"SO THAT WHEN THE SYMBOL OF HIS STRENGTH SWELLED, THEY LOST CONTROL OF THEMSELVES, THEIR MINDS.
"TO BE HIS BERSERKERS.
"HIS SHOCK TROOPS IN HIS WARS OF THE NIGHT.
"WITH HIS FISTS, BEARING SILVER, TO KEEP THEM IN LINE."
WEREWOLVES.
MY PEOPLE.
MY PEOPLE WHO WILL NO LONGER BE SLAVES TO YOUR FATHER'S GOD, DIATRICE.
AND IF I'M GOING TO FREE MY PEOPLE...

"...I NEED YOU."

IS IT POSSIBLE, BADR?

FOR KHONSHU TO *DIE?* TO BE KILLED?

THAT *IS* A POINT OF CONTENTION. AFTER ALL, "CAN YOU KILL A STORY"?

HOWEVER, IN THE MEMORIES OF THE CHORUS THAT LIVE INSIDE ME, THERE IS A *PROPHECY* OF HOW A WEAPON *MIGHT* BE MADE TO MURDER OUR FATHER, BUT IT CONTAINS WITHIN IT A *CONTRADICTION.*

A ROUGH TRANSLATION FROM THE *DARKHOLD,* AS DISCOVERED BY THE FIST *OMARI:*

"WHEN THE MOON LEADS THE SKIES...

"THE BLOOD OF THE FIST ANOINTED WITH THE BLOOD OF THE FIST...

"A WEAPON TO KILL THEIR GRANDSIRE THE MOON GOD...

"FORGED BY THE KING OF ALL WOLVES...

"ANOINTED IN BLOOD, TEMPERED WITH A CURSE..."

THERE'S MORE, BUT THAT'S THE CRUX OF IT--IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, NONSENSE.

THE MOON "LEADING" THE SKIES REFERS TO A PLANETARY ALIGNMENT, LIKE TONIGHT'S.

"THE BLOOD OF THE FIST," A REPETITION UNDERSTOOD TO MEAN THE *KIN,* THE *ISSUE* OF THE FIST.

A *CHILD.*

WHICH *WE,* BY DEFINITION AND DECREE, DO NOT AND *CANNOT HAVE.*

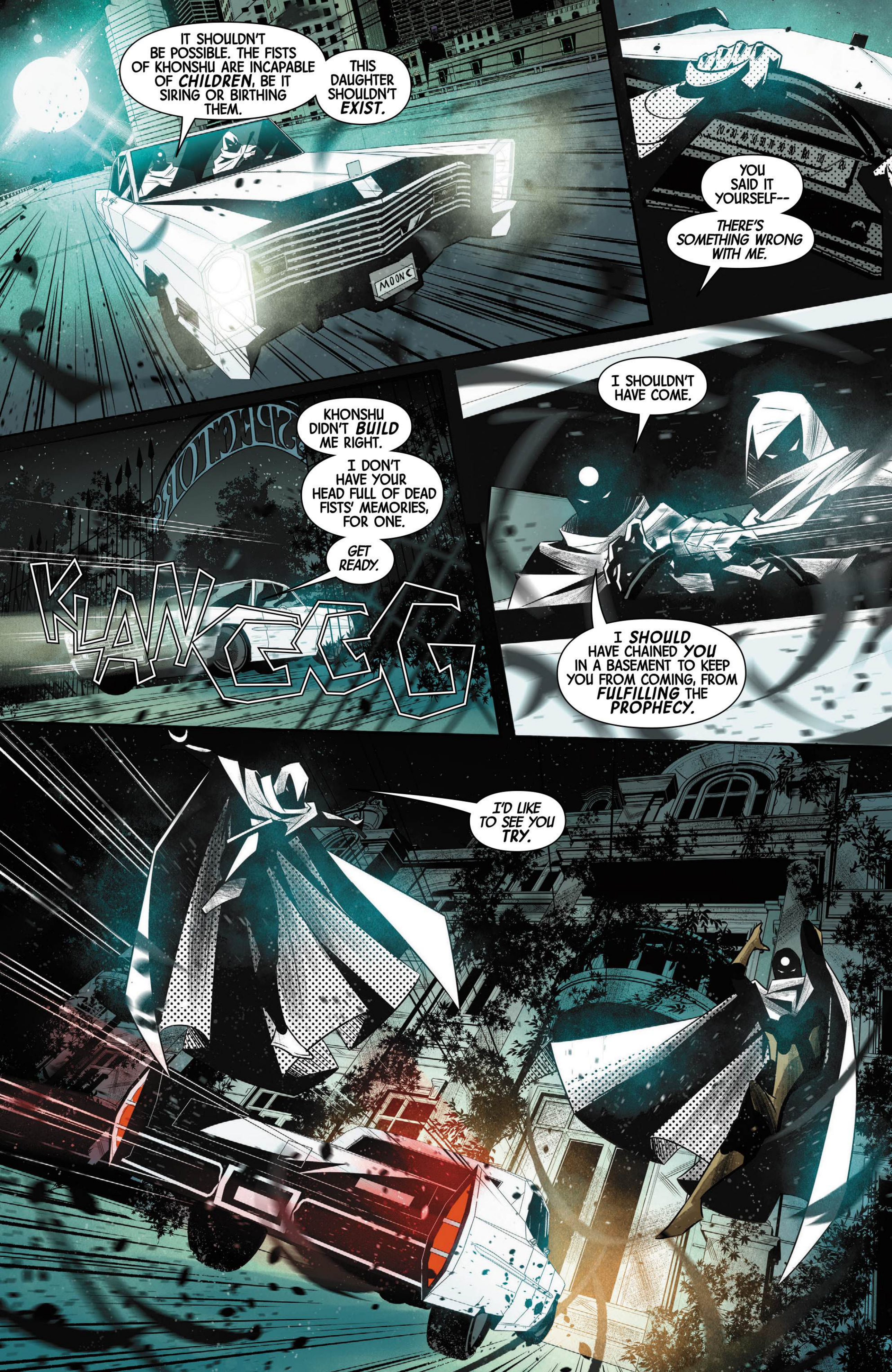
ONE OF THE DICTATES OF KHONSHU: A FIST IS A *WEAPON.* A FIST DOES NOT *REPRODUCE.* WE *REAP,* WE DO NOT *SOW.*

...

YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO SUIT UP.

I DON'T GET IT.
THERE'S A PROPHECY.
IN A BOOK CALLED THE DARKHOLD THAT MY FAMILY'S BEEN MIXED UP WITH FOR A LONG TIME.
IT TOLD ME WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN. WHAT MY PART IN IT WAS AND WHAT YOUR PART WAS AND YOUR DAD'S PART.
YOU'RE DOING ALL THIS BECAUSE A BOOK TOLD YOU TO--
THAT'S STUPID!
YEAH. MAYBE IT IS.
I USED TO THINK SO TOO.
I THOUGHT YOU COULD DODGE A PROPHECY.
"THERE WAS A KID, A WEREWOLF, LIKE ME. HE WAS PART GOD, AS IT TURNED OUT.
"HIS MOM LEFT HIM, SO I RAISED HIM AS IF HE WERE MY OWN.
"MY DAD WAS DEAD WHEN THE CURSE FOUND ME, SO I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT. I THOUGHT I COULD DO BETTER FOR TIER."*
*SEE X-FACTOR #224 --TOM

IS THAT HIS NAME? TIER?
THAT'S A WEIRD NAME.
WAS.
IT WAS HIS NAME.
HE DIED. WAS KILLED.
BECAUSE OF WHAT THE GODS SAID WAS GOING TO HAPPEN. BECAUSE OF A PROPHECY.
AFTER THAT, WELL. I LEARNED MY LESSON ABOUT DODGING PROPHECIES, I GUESS.
I'M THE KING OF ALL WOLVES. BUT EVEN A KING BENDS TO FATE.
GET SOME REST. HE'LL BE HERE SOON.


IT SHOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE. THE FISTS OF KHONSHU ARE INCAPABLE OF *CHILDREN*, BE IT SIRING OR BIRTHING THEM.
THIS DAUGHTER SHOULDN'T *EXIST*.
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF--
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME.
KHONSHU DIDN'T *BUILD* ME RIGHT.
I DON'T HAVE YOUR HEAD FULL OF DEAD FISTS' MEMORIES, FOR ONE.
GET READY.
KLANGGG
I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME.
I *SHOULD* HAVE CHAINED *YOU* IN A BASEMENT TO KEEP YOU FROM COMING, FROM *FULFILLING* THE *PROPHECY*.
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY.

WHAT--?
KRYSSEH
"YEAH."
THAT'S HIM, ALL RIGHT.
GO.
KILL HIM IF YOU CAN. LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH.

CAN YOU SMELL HIM?
ALL I CAN SMELL IS GAS.
MUST'VE RIPPED OPEN THE FUEL TANK.
UH--
OH!
KABOOM
SPECTOR--

→KOFF KOFF←
--BASTARDS--
--SILVER HURTS--
IT MAY HURT NOW, MAY HURT LIKE HELL...
BUT AFTER WHAT I'M GOING TO DO TO YOU, YOU'LL LOOK BACK ON THIS AS THE LAST GOOD MOMENT OF YOUR LIFE.
WHERE IS MY DAUGHTER.

DON'T WORRY.
MR. KNIGHT'LL GET YOUR KID BACK.

IF ANYONE CAN, IT'S MARC.

DON'T YOU THINK YOU WERE A LITTLE HARD ON HIM BACK THERE?

"NO."
COME BACK WITH HER, MARC.
OR DIE TRYING.
THERE'S NO THIRD OPTION.

YOU LIKE HIM.
I GET IT, HE'S LIKABLE. HIM, JAKE, STEVEN, ALL OF THEM.
YOU WANT TO PROTECT HIM. I GET THAT TOO--HE'S GOT A LOT OF PROBLEMS.

HE SAVED ME, SAVED LOTS OF PEOPLE--
THAT'S THE THING.
HE SAVES PEOPLE. EVERYONE EXCEPT HIMSELF AND THE PEOPLE CLOSEST TO HIM.

"ARE YOU IN *LOVE* WITH HIM, REESE?"

"*PFFFT*, PLEASE.

"HE'S HARDLY MY TYPE.

"BUT HE NEEDS SOMEONE IN HIS *CORNER*.

"ALL HIS OLD SUPER HERO PALS DROPPED HIM, EXCEPT FOR THAT SNITCH *TIGRA*.

"HE NEEDS SOMEONE WHO'S *NOT* HIS DOCTOR, WHO'S *NOT* BLINDLY BEHOLDEN TO HIM, WHO'S *NOT* MIXED UP IN ALL HIS *MOON-GOD CRAP*."

"I GET THAT TOO. I THOUGHT THAT COULD BE ME, ONCE UPON A TIME. IT WAS EXCITING, AT FIRST.

"I LOVED MARC. AND STEVEN. AND JAKE.

"BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO."

WE BROKE EACH OTHER'S HEARTS OVER THE YEARS, AGAIN AND AGAIN.

IN TIME, THE *HORROR* OUTPACED THE *EXCITEMENT*.

YOU'LL SEE THAT, EVENTUALLY.

"AND THEN I GOT PREGNANT.

"AND THERE'S NO ROOM FOR MOON KNIGHT IN A CHILD'S LIFE."

YOURS DEAD?

NOT YET. YOURS?

NO. MIGHT NEED TO ASK HIM SOME QUESTIONS LATER.

I DON'T THINK THEY EXPECTED ANOTHER FIST TO BE HERE.

THAT'S TO OUR ADVANTAGE. I'LL GO AFTER JACK, YOU TRY AND FIND DIATRICE.

NO.

MAKE NO MISTAKE, SPECTOR. YOUR DAUGHTER'S LIFE IS *NOT* MY PRIORITY HERE.

SHE SHOULD NOT EXIST. *HER* LIFE REPRESENTS A *THREAT* TO OUR FATHER'S, OUR *GOD'S*, LIFE.

AND IF RUSSELL *KILLS YOU* FOR *GOOD*, THEN THAT'S *ONE* PART OF THE PROPHECY *FULFILLED*, AND I CANNOT LET THAT *HAPPEN*.

LET *ME* WORRY ABOUT RUSSELL.

IF HE KILLS ME, IT DOESN'T *MEAN ANYTHING* IF HE DOESN'T HAVE *DIATRICE*.

YOU CALL YOURSELF MY *BROTHER? THEN LOOK TO YOUR NIECE, BADR.*

...

JACK! GET OUT HERE, YOU BASTARD!
YOU WANT TO KILL ME? HERE I AM!
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO, MY SON.
HRRNN.
THE GIRL CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO LIVE.
...
FATHER...
I...
THIS IS NOT JUST.
YOU QUESTION YOUR LOVING FATHER?
NO.
NO, OF COURSE NOT.

SHE SHOULD NOT BE, MY HUNTER'S MOON.

SHE CARRIES WITHIN HER THE POTENTIAL FOR MY DOOM.

RATTLE RATTLE

...LOCKED.

WHY LOCK A DOOR IN AN EMPTY HOUSE...

KRRRNKCHH

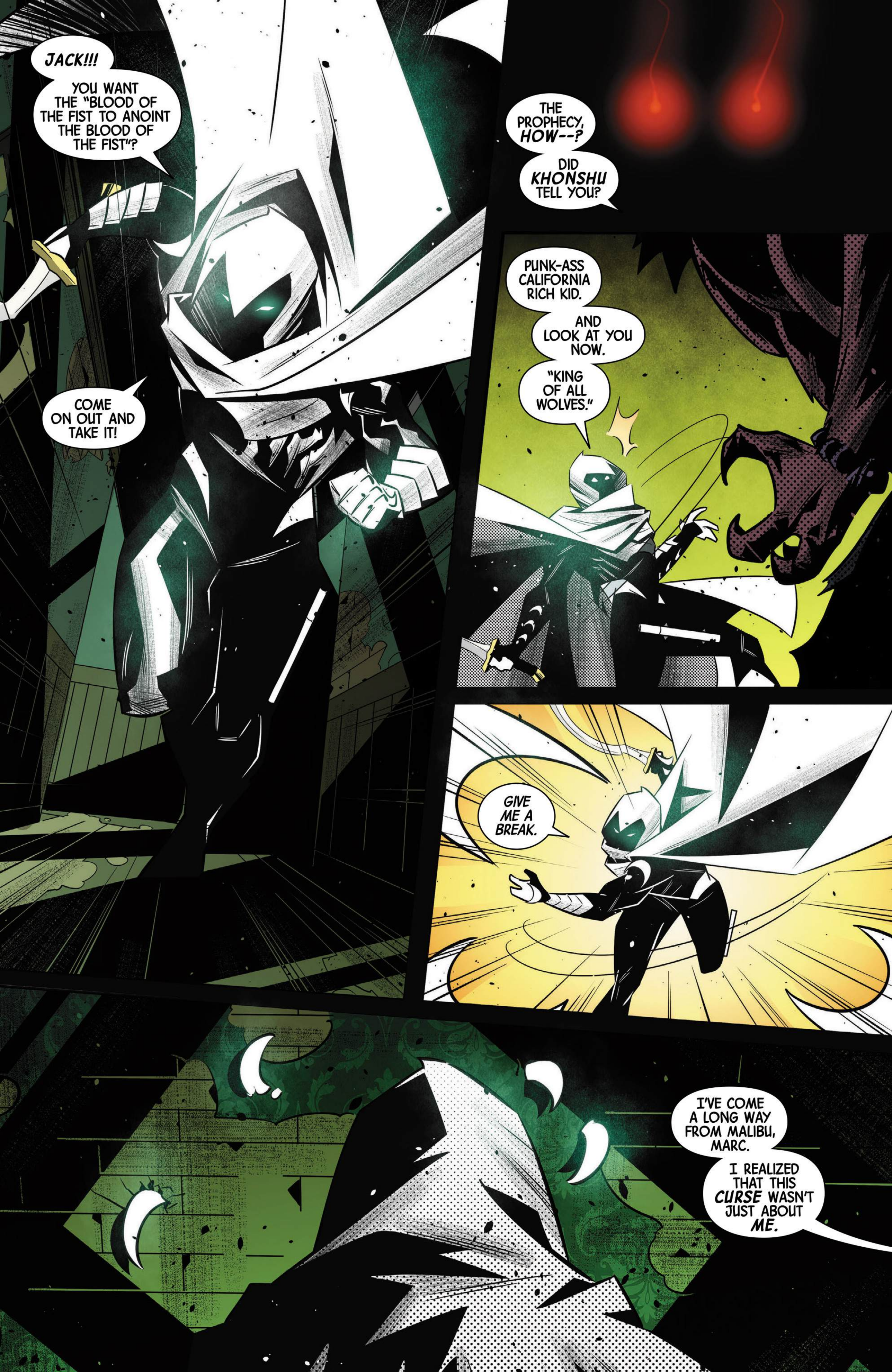
...UNLESS IT IS TO PROTECT A TREASURE?

DAD!

...WAIT... YOU'RE NOT MY DAD.

WHO--

--WHO ARE YOU?


JACK!!!
YOU WANT THE "BLOOD OF THE FIST TO ANOINT THE BLOOD OF THE FIST"?
COME ON OUT AND TAKE IT!
THE PROPHECY, HOW--?
DID KHONSHU TELL YOU?
PUNK-ASS CALIFORNIA RICH KID.
AND LOOK AT YOU NOW.
"KING OF ALL WOLVES."
GIVE ME A BREAK.
I'VE COME A LONG WAY FROM MALIBU, MARC.
I REALIZED THAT THIS CURSE WASN'T JUST ABOUT ME.

ALL OF US, SICK WITH A CURSE WE NEVER ASKED FOR.
DRIVEN MAD BY YOUR GOD SO WE COULD BE HIS SOLDIERS.
POLICED BY HIS FISTS WITH BLADES OF SILVER.
I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU, MARC. BUT YOU'VE GOT OLD BLOOD UNDER YOUR NAILS, THE KIND THAT DOESN'T WASH AWAY.
AND I'LL DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO FOR MY PEOPLE.
AND I'LL DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO FOR MINE.
AAAGH!
RRRRRR...
GONNA HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT, MARC.
I SPENT THE LAST YEAR FIGHTING WENDIGOS UP AND DOWN THE QUEBEC COASTLINE.
YOU THINK YOU'RE MEANER THAN THEM?
LET'S FIND OUT TOGETHER.

"I COULDN'T RAISE MY DAUGHTER AROUND HIM."

BECAUSE PEOPLE *DIE* AROUND MOON KNIGHT.

"BLOOD SHOWS UP VERY EASILY ON THAT WHITE SUIT.

DO IT.

"IT MAY WASH OUT...

"...BUT THERE'S ALWAYS GOING TO BE MORE."

I'M SORRY, MARC.

NO.

IF YOU KILL SPECTOR, SHE DIES.
WHO--?
BADR, NO--
YOU NEED TO TURN THE GIRL, DON'T YOU, KING OF ALL WOLVES?
ANOINT HER WITH THE BLOOD OF HER FATHER, UNDER THE ALIGNMENT, THEN TRANSFER TO HER THE CURSE.
SHE IS THE WEAPON YOU NEED TO FORGE.
YOUR HUMAN FORM, RUSSELL. NOW.
SHE IS AN ABERRATION, AND IF I KILL HER NOW, THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER.
YOU'LL NEVER GET ANOTHER CHANCE.
YOU THINK THAT'S WHY I'M CONCERNED FOR HER? MY CHANCE?
I WAS GOING TO PASS ON OUR CURSE TO HER. SO SHE COULD END IT. SHE COULD SAVE SO MANY PEOPLE.
AND YES, THAT MAKES ME A MONSTER. THE MONSTER KHONSHU MADE ME. MADE ALL OF US.
BUT SHE WOULD LIVE, AND I'LL BE DAMNED IF I LET ANOTHER KID DIE FOR PROPHECY.

NOTHING'S WORTH THAT.

BECAUSE YOU'D DO IT, WOULDN'T YOU? LET HIM THREATEN YOUR OWN KID'S LIFE TO SAVE YOURS--

NO!

YOU CAN'T KILL PEOPLE IN FRONT OF ME, DAD!

THEN STEP OUTSIDE, DIATRICE.

BECAUSE AS LONG AS JACK'S ALIVE, YOU'RE IN DANGER.

GOD.

IS THAT ALL YOU GUYS CAN THINK ABOUT?

WHY DOES ANYONE HAVE TO DIE TONIGHT, DAD?!

JACK DIDN'T HURT ME.

HIS PROPHECY DIDN'T COME TRUE, SO KHONSHU IS SAFE.

CAN WE JUST CALL IT A NIGHT? PLEASE?

THE WORST THAT HAPPENED IS THAT MOM GOT SCARED.
HE WAS GOING TO KILL ME AND TURN YOU INTO A WEREWOLF, DIATRICE.
BUT HE DIDN'T!
AND NOW THE "PLANETARY ALIGNMENT" OR WHATEVER IS OVER! SO HE'S GOT NO REASON TO DO EITHER!
HOW DARE YOU IGNORE MY ORDER--
SHE IS INNOCENT, FATHER. YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER, YOUR ONLY GRANDDAUGHTER.
I TOLD YOU TO KILL HER!
HER BRAVERY DOES YOU CREDIT, FATHER.
SO WHAT DO YOU SAY, DAD? CAN WE GO GET MOM AND GO OUT FOR ICE CREAM LIKE A NORMAL FAMILY?
HRRRNN.
KILL KHONSHU OR DON'T, I DON'T CARE.
BUT IF I SEE YOU AGAIN, JACK, IF I EVER SEE YOU AGAIN...
...I WILL KILL YOU.
AND MY DAUGHTER WON'T BE THERE TO BUY YOUR LIFE A SECOND TIME.

"SHE'S BRAVE, MARLENE. LIKE HER MOTHER.

"I WISH SHE COULD HAVE MET MY FATHER. HER GRANDFATHER."

SO, IS IT COOL BEING A VAMPIRE?

"I WISH SHE COULD HAVE MET *BOTH* HER GRANDFATHERS, MARC."

NOT REALLY.

THERE'S *SOME* COOL STUFF, BUT MOSTLY IT SUCKS.

SUCKS-- *HAHA!*

...

ARE YOU TWO GOING BACK TO FRANCE?

NO.

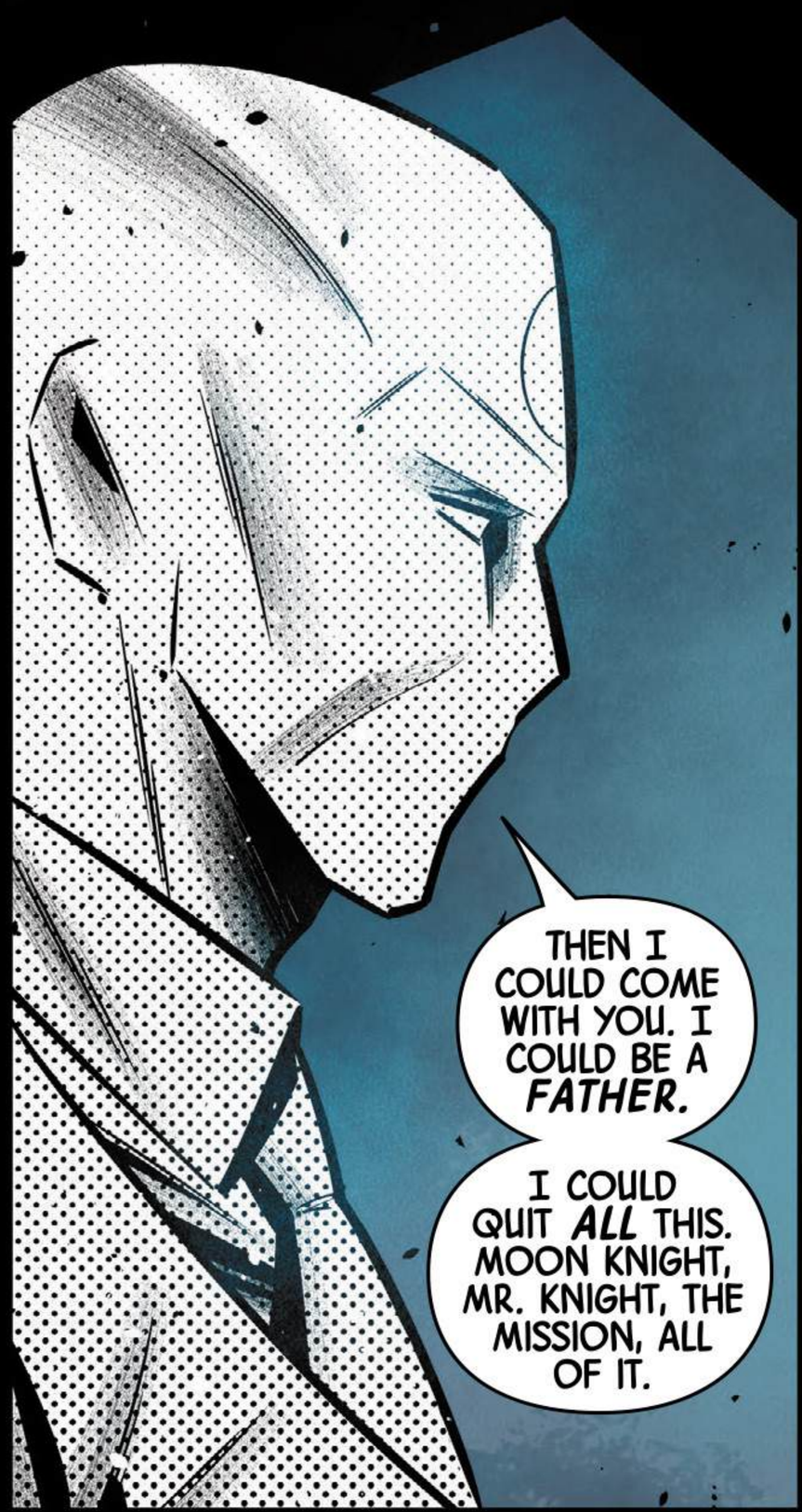
WE'LL HAVE TO FIND SOMEWHERE NEW AND BE MORE CAREFUL.

...

YOU COULD STAY.

YOU COULD STAY *HERE*. I COULD PROTECT YOU. PROTECT YOU BOTH.

YOU KNOW THAT I CAN'T.


THEN I COULD COME WITH YOU. I COULD BE A *FATHER.*
I COULD QUIT *ALL* THIS. MOON KNIGHT, MR. KNIGHT, THE MISSION, ALL OF IT.

NO, MARC.
YOU CAN'T.

I LOVE YOU, MARLENE. WE ALL DO.
YOU AND DIATRICE BOTH.

I KNOW YOU DO, MARC.
WHATEVER ELSE, I'VE NEVER DOUBTED THAT.
DIATRICE! STOP BOTHERING REESE--I TOLD YOU IT WAS RUDE TO TALK ABOUT PEOPLE'S FANGS.
AW, MOM!
TIME TO ROLL, KIDDO.

SO, WE'RE GOING FOR ICE CREAM WITH DAD, RIGHT?
I THINK YOU'VE EARNED IT. JUST GIVE HIM A MINUTE.
CAN HE COME VISIT WHEREVER WE'RE GOING NEXT?
WE'LL... WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT.
HEY. DIATRICE IS GETTING ANTSY FOR ICE CREAM.
YOU OKAY?
NO.
BUT I WILL BE.
YEAH, YOU WILL.
COME ON.

16 CHINATOWN

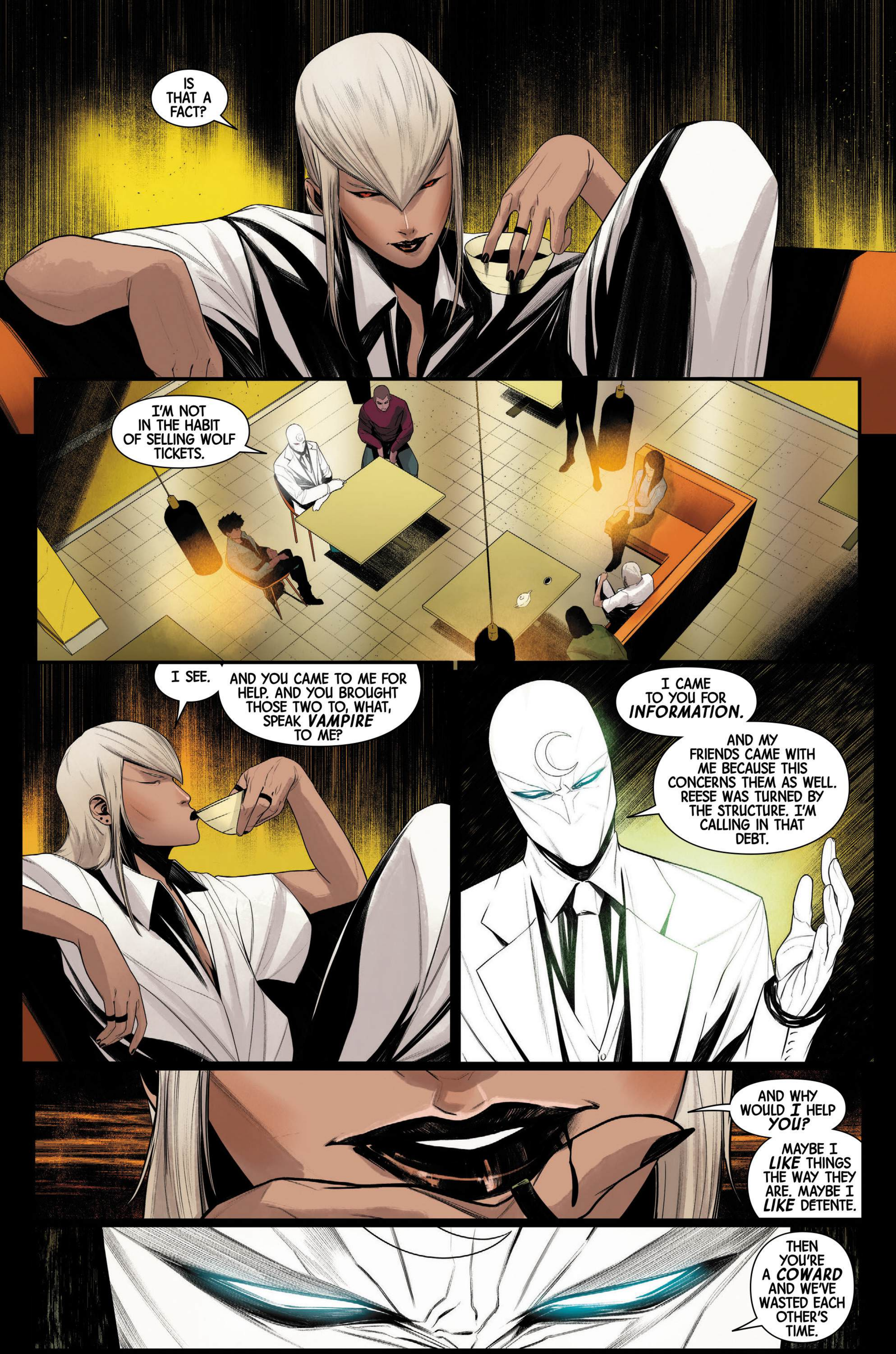
...SO YOU FOUND OUT THAT THERE'S SOMETHING OR SOMEONE IN CHINATOWN THAT THE TUTOR'S SCARED OF...
...AND WE'RE JUST WALKING IN?
HEY, YOU WANTED TO COME, REESE.
BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU HAD A PLAN.
Chinatown
WHAT CAN I SAY?
I LIKE IT WHEN THEY SEE ME COMING.
WHAT ABOUT TIGRA? HUNTER'S MOON?
TIGRA'S ABOUT THE ONLY ONE OF US WITH A LIFE--SHE'S WITH HER KID.
AND HUNTER'S MOON, WELL...

"...WE HAD A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION."

DOES THIS MAKE SENSE TO *YOU*, SOLDIER?
DOESN'T HAVE TO MAKE SENSE. ORDERS ARE ORDERS.
SEE? SOLDIER GETS IT.
PFF.
I KNOW THOSE EYES. I KNOW THAT SMELL.
AND I KNOW THE TUTOR KNOWS BETTER THAN TO SEND PEOPLE INTO CHINATOWN...
...AND I KNOW YOU'RE NOT WITH *US*.
SO WHO ARE *YOU*?
MY NAME IS *MR. KNIGHT*.
CONSIDER THIS A *DIPLOMATIC VISIT* FROM THE *MIDNIGHT MISSION* TO WHOEVER CLAIMS *CHINATOWN* AS THEIR TERRITORY.

LADY YULAN, THIS IS *MR. KNIGHT.*
AND HIS... ASSOCIATES.
I LIKE YOUR OUTFIT.
WHERE I COME FROM, BACK IN MY DAY, YOU WORE WHITE FOR FUNERALS.
I'VE WORN IT EVER SINCE.
DO YOU GO TO A *LOT* OF FUNERALS, MR. KNIGHT?
NO.
I DO HAVE A HABIT OF *CAUSING* THEM THOUGH.

"IN FACT, THERE'S ONE I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO ENGINEERING.
"THE TUTOR'S.
"AND HIS WHOLE ORGANIZATION, THE STRUCTURE.
"I KNOW THERE'S NO LOVE LOST BETWEEN YOU TWO.
"SO I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SEND FLOWERS.
"BECAUSE I'M GOING TO KILL HIM."


IS THAT A FACT?
I'M NOT IN THE HABIT OF SELLING WOLF TICKETS.
I SEE.
AND YOU CAME TO ME FOR HELP. AND YOU BROUGHT THOSE TWO TO, WHAT, SPEAK *VAMPIRE* TO ME?
I CAME TO YOU FOR *INFORMATION.*
AND MY FRIENDS CAME WITH ME BECAUSE THIS CONCERNS THEM AS WELL. REESE WAS TURNED BY THE STRUCTURE. I'M CALLING IN THAT DEBT.
AND WHY WOULD *I* HELP *YOU?*
MAYBE I *LIKE* THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE. MAYBE I *LIKE* DETENTE.
THEN YOU'RE A *COWARD* AND WE'VE WASTED EACH OTHER'S TIME.

IS THAT A FACT?
KRESHHH

"I WAS RAISED FROM BIRTH TO BE AN ASSASSIN IN THE COURT OF THE DREAD IMMORTAL YI YANG.
"I AM THE *FIRST* OF MY BLOODLINE, CREATED BY HER ALCHEMY.
"I HAD KILLED A THOUSAND MEN AT HER BEHEST A *CENTURY* BEFORE VLAD *DRACULA* WAS EVEN BORN.
"YOU WALK INTO *MY TERRITORY...*
"...AND CALL ME A COWARD?"

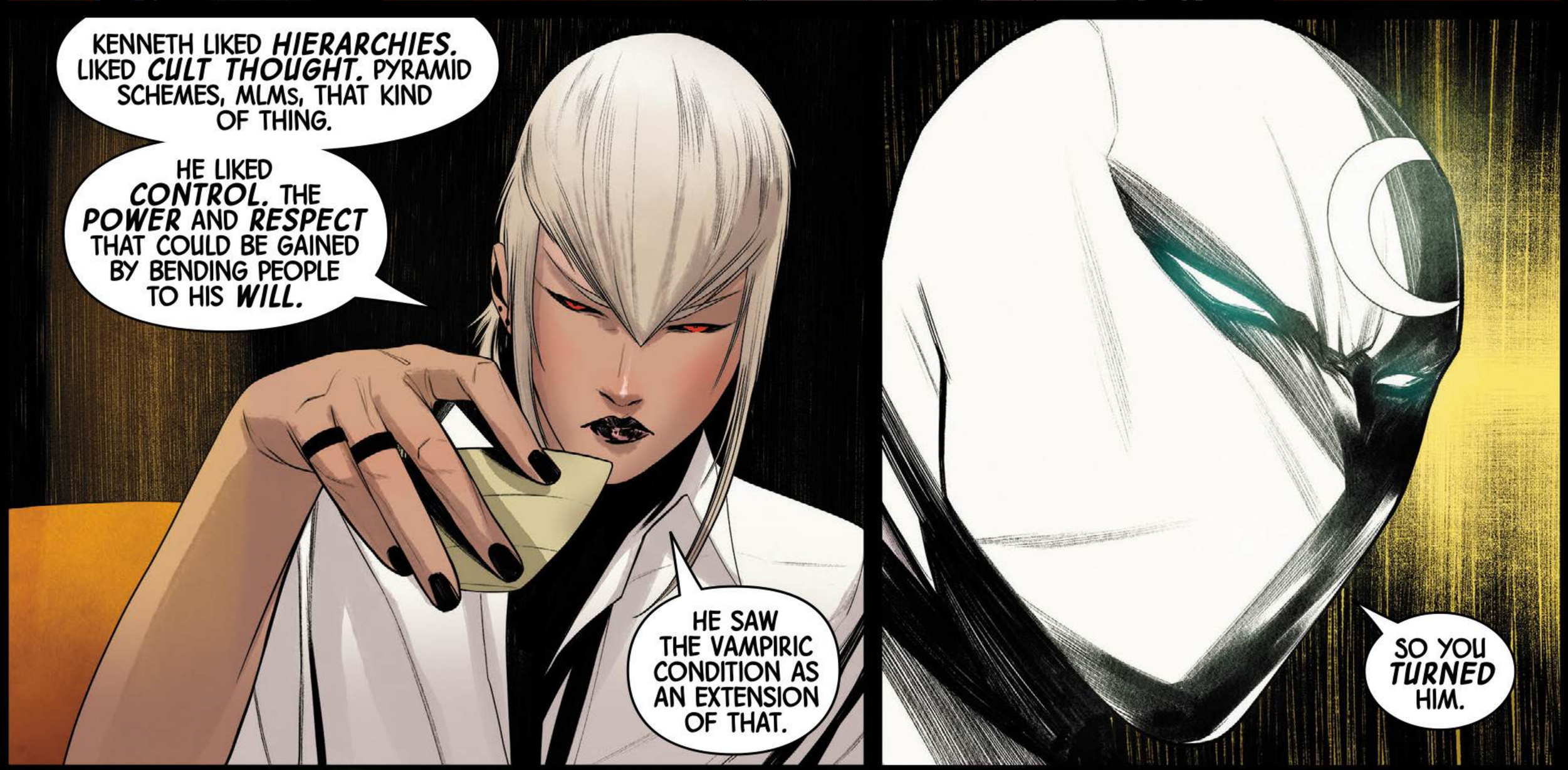
SURE, YOU'RE AN ANCIENT MONSTER. YOU'RE DEATH ON TWO LEGS.

I *GET* WHY THE TUTOR WOULD BE AFRAID OF YOU.

PUT THAT GUN AWAY.
YOU'RE EMBARRASSING YOURSELF.
YOUR MAN IS *RIGHT.*
I LEFT YI YANG'S SERVICE ALMOST A CENTURY AGO. HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE, BUT A CENTURY'S *NOTHING* TO *HER.*
YI YANG LIVED *TOO LONG.*
IMMORTALITY SOURED HER MIND AND SOUL. MADE HER AN INSANE MONSTER. DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO *WORK* FOR SOMEONE LIKE THAT?
YEAH.
BEFORE *NOW,* I MEAN.
IF I MOVE AGAINST THE TUTOR, THEN HE'LL MAKE YI YANG, WHEREVER SHE IS, AWARE OF MY WHEREABOUTS.
AND WHEN SHE COMES FOR ME, SHE WILL BURN ALL OF CHINATOWN, IF NOT NEW YORK CITY.

"I MADE THE TUTOR, YOU SEE.
"I WAS BORN IN THE BACK HALF OF THE YUAN DYNASTY.
"I SAW WHAT HAPPENED TO MY OLD MASTER AND WAS DETERMINED NOT TO LET IT HAPPEN TO ME.
"THE TIMES CHANGE, AND I CHANGE WITH THEM. IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO STAY SANE, TO STAVE OFF THE ALIENATION OF IMMORTALITY.
"I CULTIVATE AN INTEREST IN HUMANITY AND THEIR IDEAS.
"AND KENNETH--THE TUTOR--HAD SUCH IDEAS.
"THOUGHTS ON HUMAN NATURE, SOCIAL DYNAMICS, WHAT VAMPIRISM COULD MEAN AS A FORWARD STEP IN EVOLUTION RATHER THAN A PARASITIC INFECTION.
"THAT KIND OF THING."

IT WAS ALL NONSENSE, OF COURSE.
WHEN HE CAME TO ME, I DIDN'T ENTERTAIN IT AS TRUTH. BUT IT WAS A SIGN OF THE TIMES, AND I HAD RESOLVED TO KEEP UP WITH THE TIMES.


KENNETH LIKED HIERARCHIES. LIKED CULT THOUGHT. PYRAMID SCHEMES, MLMs, THAT KIND OF THING.
HE LIKED CONTROL. THE POWER AND RESPECT THAT COULD BE GAINED BY BENDING PEOPLE TO HIS WILL.
HE SAW THE VAMPIRIC CONDITION AS AN EXTENSION OF THAT.
SO YOU TURNED HIM.

NO.
HE TURNED HIMSELF. HE TOOK ONE OF MY BRIDES.

TOOK HER BLOOD AND BOOTSTRAPPED HIMSELF INTO A VAMPIRE.
HE ESCAPED THE COUNTRY BEFORE I COULD TRACK HIM DOWN AND DESTROY HIM.
AND WHEN HE RETURNED A FEW YEARS LATER WITH THE BEGINNINGS OF HIS STRUCTURE, HE HAD AN ULTIMATUM: LEAVE HIM TO HIS BUSINESS OR HE WOULD INFORM YI YANG ABOUT HER ERRANT ASSASSIN.

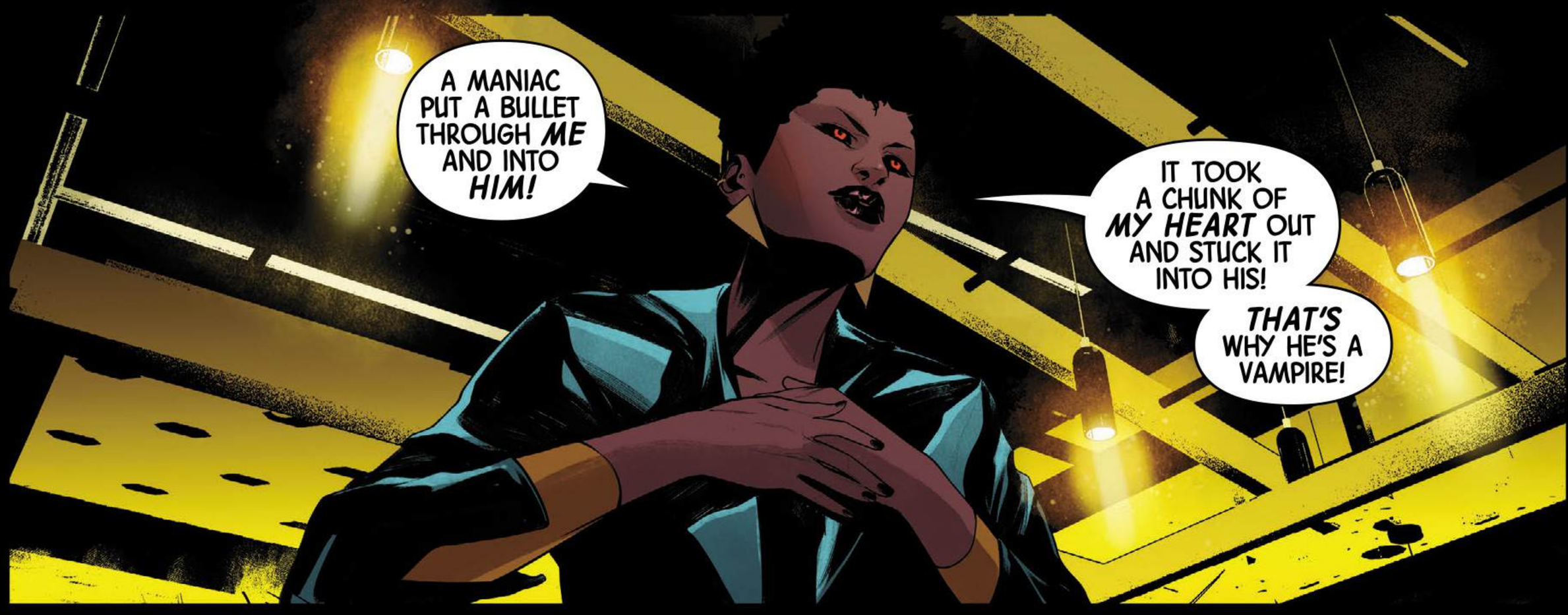
AND NOW *YOU* POSE A THREAT TO HIM AND HE WANTS *YOU* DESTROYED.

I'M NOT GOING TO STOP UNTIL I BURN HIM OUT OF THIS CITY.

THAT'S NICE.
BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT. YOU CAN KILL AS MANY OF HIS PEOPLE AS YOU WANT, HE'LL JUST TURN MORE.
WHAT YOU'VE ACTUALLY THREATENED IS HIS *EXCLUSIVITY.*

WHAT?
HIS *EXCLUSIVITY.* I CAN *SMELL* IT ON THE BOY. THE SAME BLOOD AS THE *GIRL.*
YOU'RE MAKING NEW VAMPIRES.

"WAIT--
"--THAT'S WHY THE TUTOR'S AFTER MR. KNIGHT? BECAUSE OF SOLDIER?
"THAT WAS AN ACCIDENT, FOR GOD'S SAKE!"


A MANIAC PUT A BULLET THROUGH ME AND INTO HIM!
IT TOOK A CHUNK OF MY HEART OUT AND STUCK IT INTO HIS!
THAT'S WHY HE'S A VAMPIRE!

THAT'S HILARIOUS.

SO THE TUTOR THINKS THAT THE MIDNIGHT MISSION IS CHALLENGING HIS POSITION AS THE VAMPIRE POWER IN NEW YORK.
BUT WHAT'S ONE MEASLY VAMPIRE?
(SORRY, SOLDIER.)

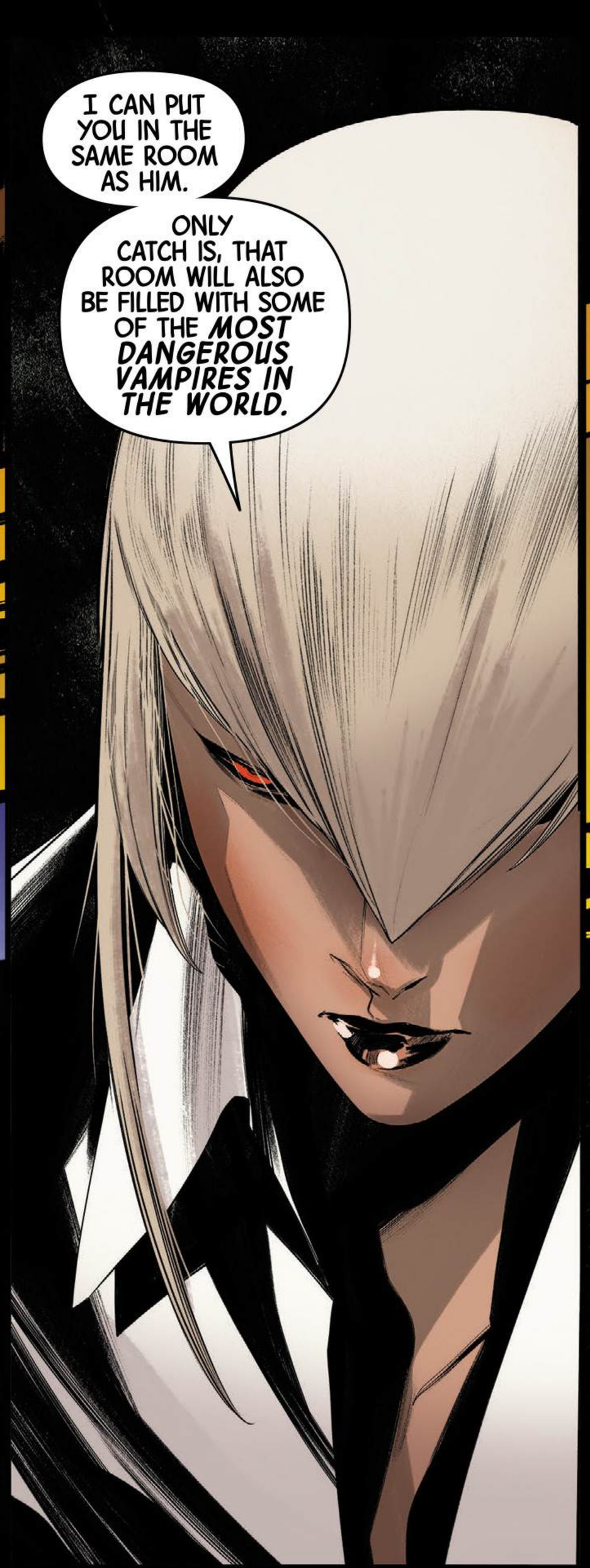
IT'S THE PRINCIPLE.
BECAUSE THE TUTOR IS IN A DELICATE POSITION.

HE'S MAKING A BID FOR INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION.

"LIKE I SAID. HE LIKES *HIERARCHIES.*
"HE'S NOT CONTENT WITH MERELY BEING THE VAMPIRE KING OF NEW YORK. HE WANTS THE *OTHER* VAMPIRE FACTIONS TO RECOGNIZE HIM.
"HE WANTS *TREATIES, ALLIANCES* WITH THE VAMPIRE NATIONS IN EUROPE, AFRICA, ASIA, SOUTH AMERICA.
"AND, OF COURSE, THE BIG ONE--THE *VAMPIRE NATION OF CHERNOBYL.*"

THE *FIRST* INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED *SOVEREIGN VAMPIRE NATION* IN HISTORY.
THE TUTOR WANTS TO REACH OUT TO *DRACULA.*
HE WANTS TO TAKE THE STRUCTURE *GLOBAL.*
IF HE CAN *INFECT* THE OTHER VAMPIRE NATIONS WITH HIS *WEIRDO CULT...*
...THEN MAYBE HE CAN CHALLENGE *DRACULA HIMSELF* DOWN THE LINE. AND THEN? WHO KNOWS.
MAYBE IT TAKES TEN YEARS. MAYBE IT TAKES A HUNDRED.
VAMPIRES CAN WORK ON *A VERY LONG TIMELINE,* MR. KNIGHT.
THAT'S IT, THEN. HE'S HURT PEOPLE CLOSE TO BOTH OF US.
WE BOTH WANT HIM GONE.
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU CAN'T ACT. BUT *I* CAN, WITH YOUR HELP. WHAT CAN YOU GIVE ME?

HE'S HOLDING A *CONCLAVE* IN MANHATTAN.
HE'S INVITED *DELEGATIONS* FROM VAMPIRE FACTIONS AROUND THE WORLD.
AND I KNOW WHEN AND WHERE IT IS.


I CAN PUT YOU IN THE SAME ROOM AS HIM.
ONLY CATCH IS, THAT ROOM WILL ALSO BE FILLED WITH SOME OF THE *MOST DANGEROUS VAMPIRES IN THE WORLD.*

GOOD.

"I KNOW SOMEONE WHO WILL *ENJOY* THAT."

CONSIDER THIS A LESSON.

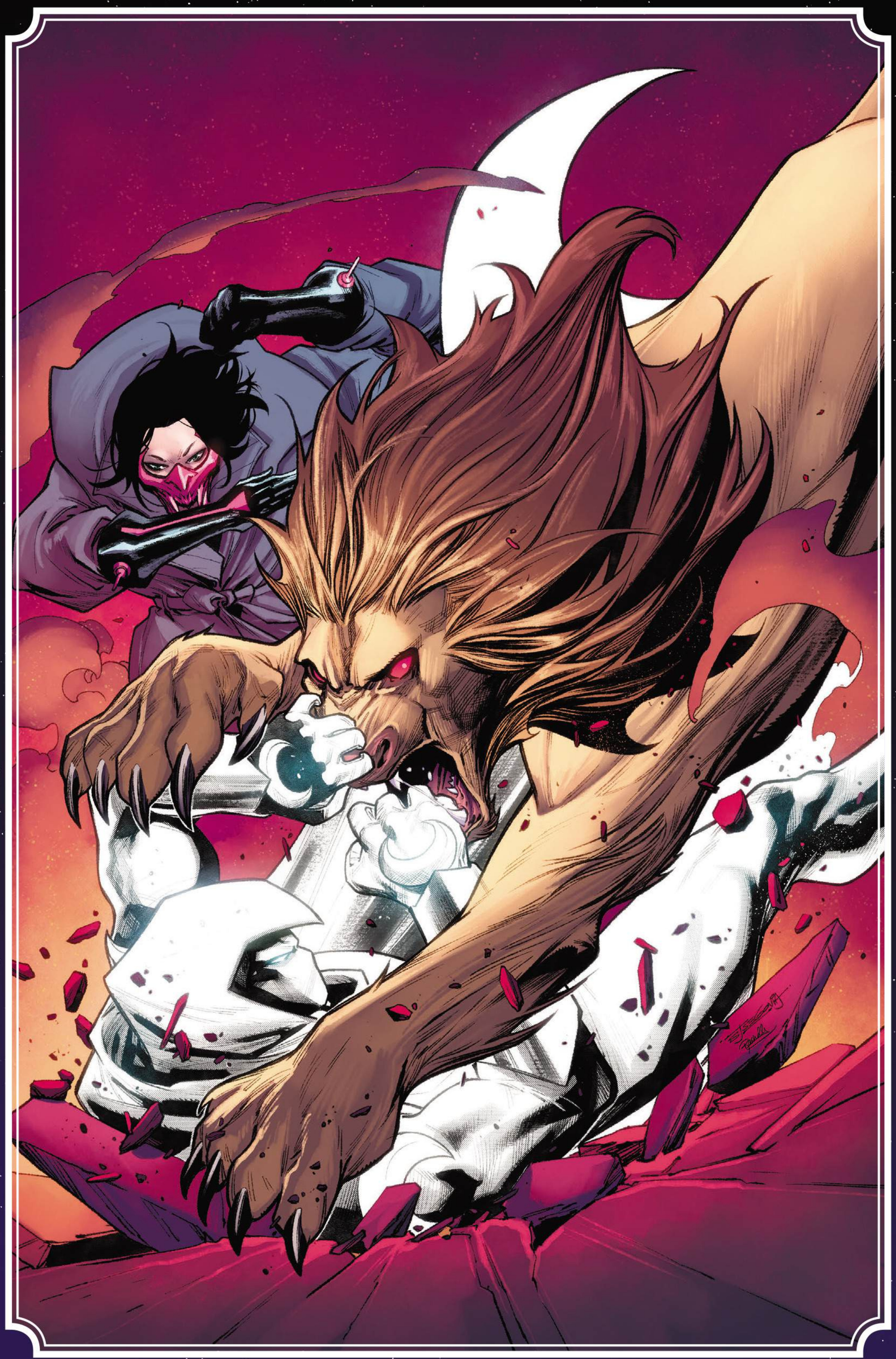
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GET INVOLVED IN OUR *BUSINESS.*

TAKE A MESSAGE TO MOON KNIGHT. TELL HIM THAT WE'RE COMING FOR HIM.

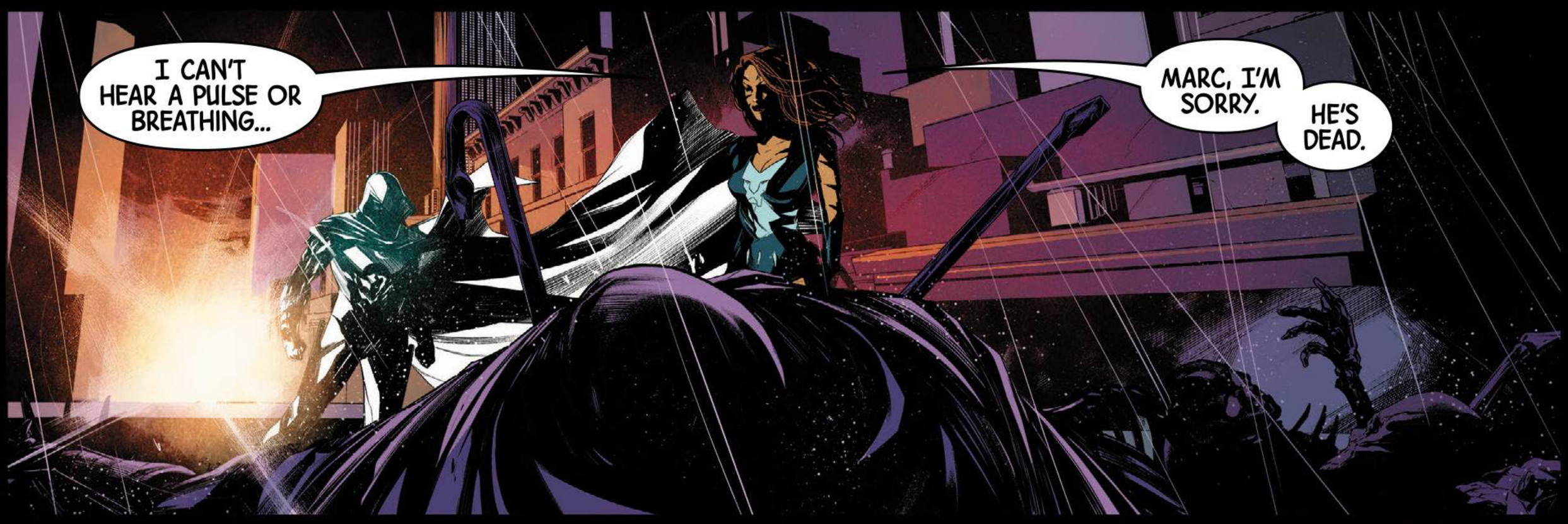
ACTUALLY, DO YOU KNOW WHAT?

RRRRGGHHH!!!

WE'LL TELL HIM OURSELVES.
KRACKK

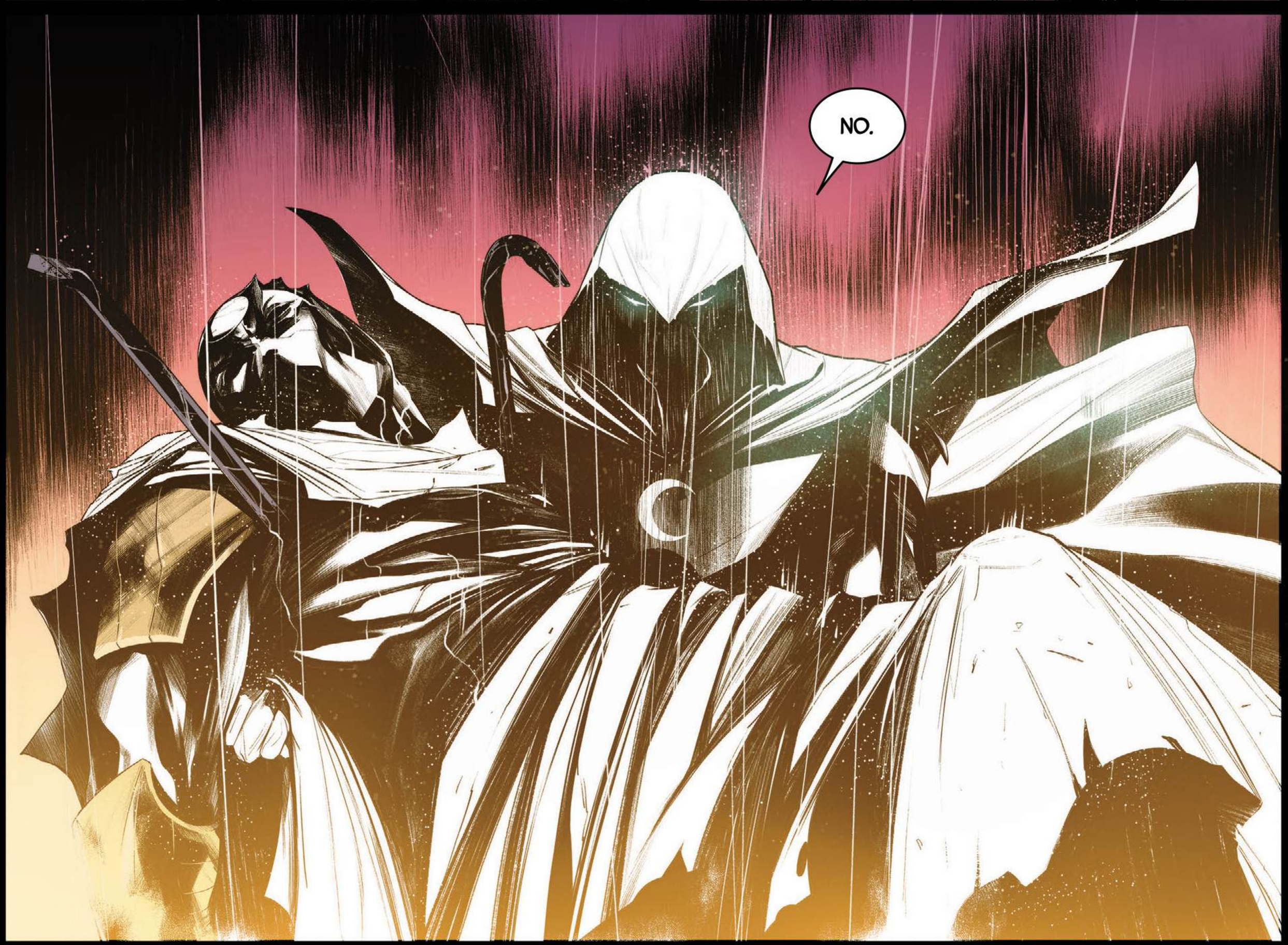


17 HOME GAME


I CAN'T HEAR A PULSE OR BREATHING...
MARC, I'M SORRY.
HE'S DEAD.

IT WAS *THEM.*
THE *TUTOR'S* ASSASSINS. THE *NEMEAN* AND *GRAND MAL.* TRYING TO GET ME OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE THE TUTOR'S BIG CONCLAVE.

THEN LET'S *GET THEM.*
THEY'RE STILL *AFTER* YOU--THEY WON'T BE HARD TO FIND.

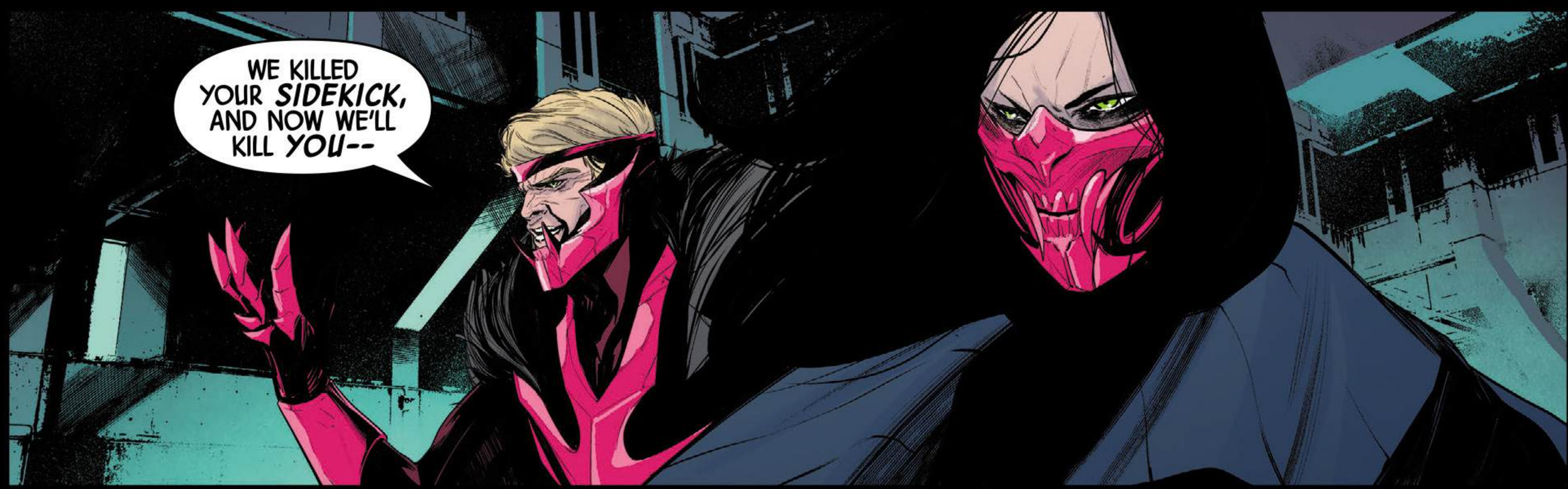

NO.

"THIS ONE, TIGRA...
"THIS ONE IS GOING TO TAKE ME SOMEWHERE YOU CAN'T *FOLLOW*.

"THEY BEAT ME BEFORE.
"THEY'VE GOT ASSASSIN TECH AND SUPER-POWERS.
"BUT EVEN WORSE:
"THEY'RE NOT AFRAID OF ME.
"I CAN'T BEAT THEM ON MY OWN.
"BUT THAT'S OKAY.

"I DON'T HAVE TO."
HELLO, MISSION. I'M HOME.
AND I BROUGHT FRIENDS.

WELCOME TO THE MIDNIGHT MISSION.
KRANGH
KRASSH
MY NAME IS MOON KNIGHT.
THIS IS WHERE I TEACH YOU WHY PEOPLE ARE AFRAID OF ME.

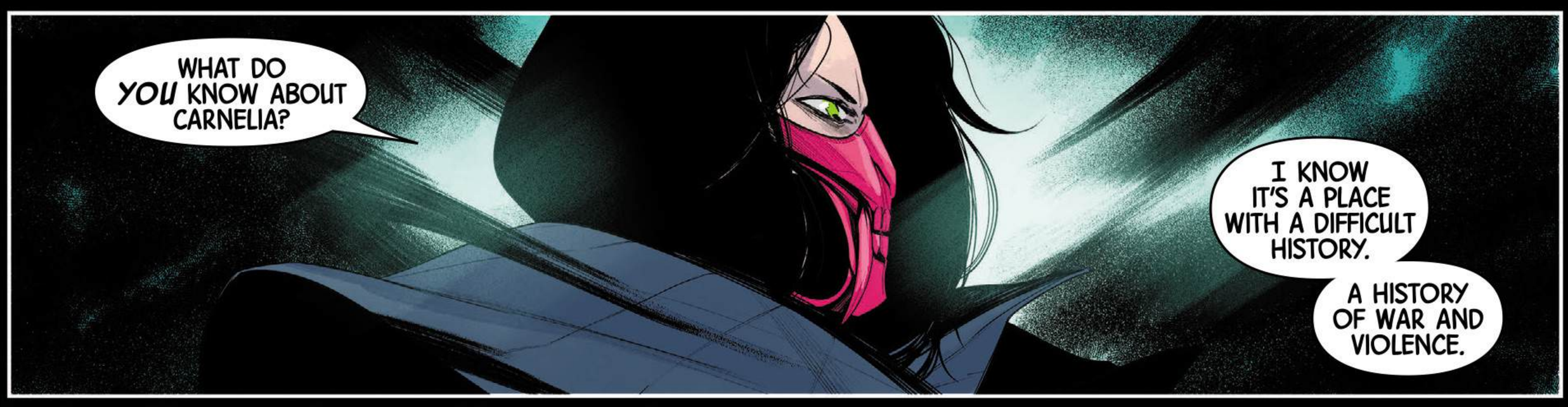

WE KILLED YOUR *SIDEKICK*, AND NOW WE'LL KILL *YOU*--

YOU'LL TRY.

YOU'LL TRY.

I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE TWO OF YOU BEFORE.
I TREATED YOU LIKE SUPER VILLAINS.
BUT YOU'RE NOT SUPER VILLAINS. YOU'RE HIRED KILLERS.
SO WE DID THE RESEARCH.
NOW I KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO.
NOW I KNOW HOW TO TAKE YOU APART.
WHAT--?
...A MIST?

YOU'RE A LONG WAY FROM CARNELIA, GRAND MAL.


WHAT DO *YOU* KNOW ABOUT CARNELIA?
I KNOW IT'S A PLACE WITH A DIFFICULT HISTORY.
A HISTORY OF WAR AND VIOLENCE.

PFFT.
YOU KNOW *NOTHING.*
CARNELIA IS *CRUCIBLE.*

A PLACE THAT BURNS AWAY *WEAKNESS.*
THAT *CUTS* IT AWAY.
IT'S A LAND THAT MAKES *WARRIORS.* IT IS A *HELL* ON EARTH THAT WE HAVE MADE OUR *OWN.*

AN AMERICAN COULD *NEVER UNDERSTAND* A PLACE LIKE THAT.
PERHAPS.

WAIT, WHAT--?
BUT THIS IS NOT AMERICA.
THIS IS THE MIDNIGHT MISSION.
THIS IS A HELL OF ITS OWN KIND.
AND IT WORKS FOR ME.

MOON KNIGHT! FACE ME!

MOON KNIGHT!

MOON KNIGHT!!!

YOU GUYS WITH YOUR POWERS.

BLADES AND BULLETS DON'T MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU.

BUT THAT'S *UP THERE.*

AND YOU'RE *DOWN HERE.*

MAYBE YOU CAN OUTFIGHT ME AGAIN.

MAYBE YOU CAN'T.

BUT THIS ISN'T A *FIGHT*, NEMEAN.
IT'S A BURIAL.

TO THE PEOPLE I PROTECT, THIS IS A PLACE OF SAFETY.
BUT FOR YOU, IT IS A PLACE OF PUNISHMENT.

THIS IS MY PLACE OF POWER.
HUGGAAGGHHHKK--

THIS IS MY TEMPLE.
HAUKK--

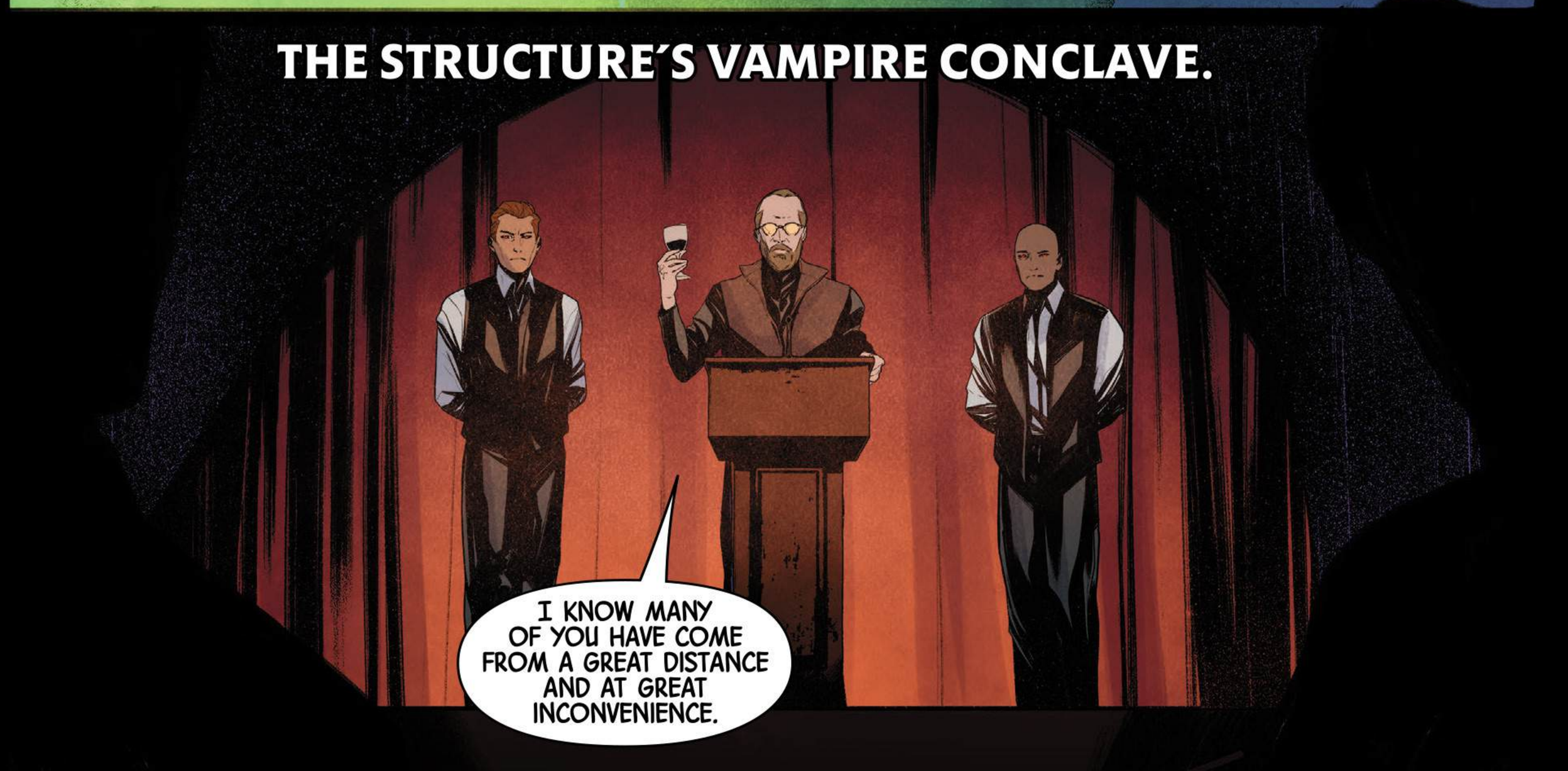
THIS IS THE MIDNIGHT MISSION.

BE WELCOME.
BE WELCOME, SUPPLICANTS.

WE'LL GIVE YOU WHAT WE WERE PAID.
YOU'LL NEVER SEE EITHER OF US AGAIN.
THAT'S NOT MY DECISION TO MAKE.
YOU KILLED HUNTER'S MOON.
I SAID I DID MY RESEARCH. YOU DIDN'T DO YOURS.
HUNTER'S MOON ISN'T MY "SIDEKICK." HE'S MY BROTHER. HE'S A FIST OF KHONSHU.

AND THE FISTS OF KHONSHU DON'T DIE.

THE NEXT NIGHT.
THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING.


THE STRUCTURE'S VAMPIRE CONCLAVE.
I KNOW MANY OF YOU HAVE COME FROM A GREAT DISTANCE AND AT GREAT INCONVENIENCE.

TONIGHT MARKS A NEW BEGINNING FOR OUR PEOPLE.
I HAVE INVITED YOU HERE TO SHOW YOU WHAT MY ORGANIZATION HAS DONE IN THIS CITY. THE SCOPE TO WHICH WE HAVE ATTAINED NUMBERS, POWER, RESOURCES.
I AM HAPPY TO SEE DELEGATIONS FROM THE *SASABONSAM*, THE *JIANGSHI*, THE *VETALAS*, THE *CIHUATETEO*...

...AND, OF COURSE, OUR GUESTS OF HONOR, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VAMPIRE NATION OF CHERNOBYL.
I ONLY REGRET THAT THE GREAT VAIVODE VLAD DRACUL COULD NOT ATTEND.
THE DRAGON SENDS HIS REGARDS AND...REGRETS.
...OF COURSE.
I HOPE TO HAVE THE PLEASURE OF MEETING WITH HIM TO SHARE MY IDEAS IN THE COMING NIGHTS.
FELLOW EVOLVED ONES, THE STRUCTURE CONTROLS NEW YORK CITY.
WE HAVE CLAIMED AS OUR TERRITORY THE JEWEL OF THE EASTERN SEABOARD, AND OUR TERRITORY IS GROWING. NOT MERELY IN EXPANDING OUR BORDERS OUTWARD BUT ALSO ORGANICALLY--THE STRUCTURE IS--
--AND MY APOLOGIES TO OUR GUESTS FROM CHERNOBYL--
--THE FIRST 21ST CENTURY, POSTMODERN VAMPIRIC ORGANIZATION.
BY ASSUMING A MULTILEVEL, HIERARCHICAL PYRAMID-STRUCTURE MODEL, WE HAVE ESTABLISHED GROWING CELLS IN OTHER CITIES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.
BY USING AGGRESSIVE RECRUITMENT MODELS, WE'VE SEEN HUGE SUCCESS IN GAINING INFLUENCE ACROSS NORTH AMERICA.
MY ASKING YOU HERE IS A TWOFOLD OPPORTUNITY.
THE FIRST, TO BEAR WITNESS TO WHAT WE'VE BUILT HERE IN NEW YORK CITY. WE PREFER SKYSCRAPERS TO CASTLES, OXFORD CLOTH BUTTON-DOWNS TO CAPES.
THE SECOND, TO SHOW YOU HOW OUR PHILOSOPHY CAN INTEGRATE WITH YOUR ORGANIZATIONS TO PRODUCE THE SAME KIND OF GROWTH WE'VE ENJOYED--
KRRRKK

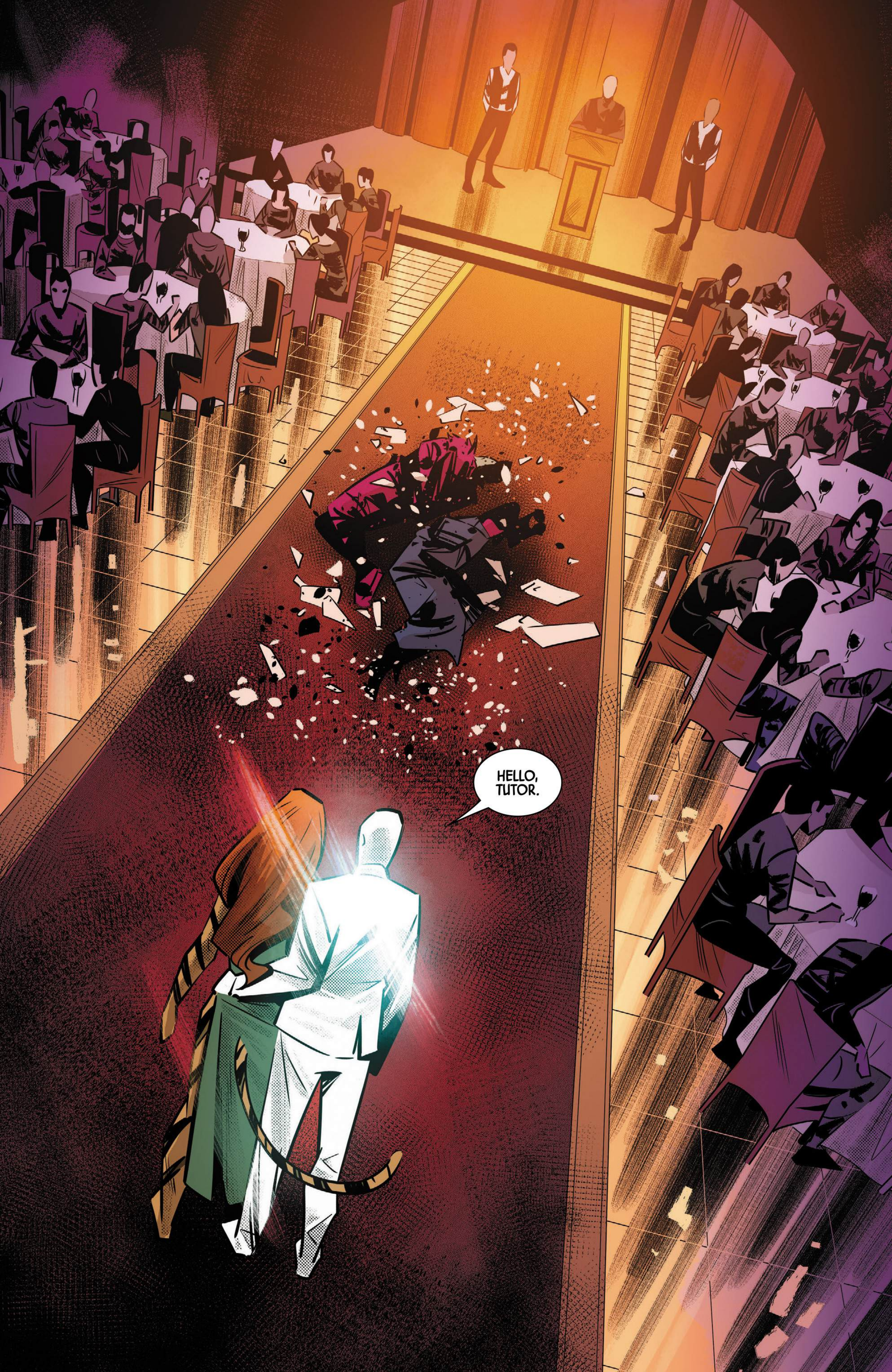
KRSH

WHAT--?

TUTOR, WHAT IS THE *MEANING* OF *THIS*--
A *PRESENT*. FROM THE *MIDNIGHT MISSION*.
IT'S CUSTOMARY TO SHOW UP TO A PARTY WITH *PRESENTS*--AND THIS *IS* A PARTY, *ISN'T* IT?
WHUMP

SO LET'S PARTY.

18 PARTY MONSTER


HELLO, TUTOR.

IT SEEMED STRANGE TO ME.
ALL THAT BLOOD BETWEEN US, SPILLED ON THE STREETS.
ALL OF YOUR GUYS THAT I DUSTED.
ALL THE BEATINGS AND BRUISES YOUR HIRED KILLERS PUT ON ME AND MINE.
AND WE HAD NEVER EVEN MET.
I HAD NEVER HEARD YOUR VOICE. HAD NEVER SEEN YOUR FACE.
HAD NEVER LOOKED YOU IN THE EYE AND TOLD YOU:
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU.

AHEM.

TAP TAP TAP

THIS, HONORED GUESTS, IS WHAT I WAS *TALKING ABOUT.*

THIS MAN, THIS *SUPER HERO,* REPRESENTS THE OLD WAY OF THINKING.

MOON KNIGHT HAS FOUGHT MY GROUP, A *POSTMODERN* VAMPIRIC ORGANIZATION, AND WHAT HAS HE ACCOMPLISHED?

NOTHING.

MOON KNIGHT--

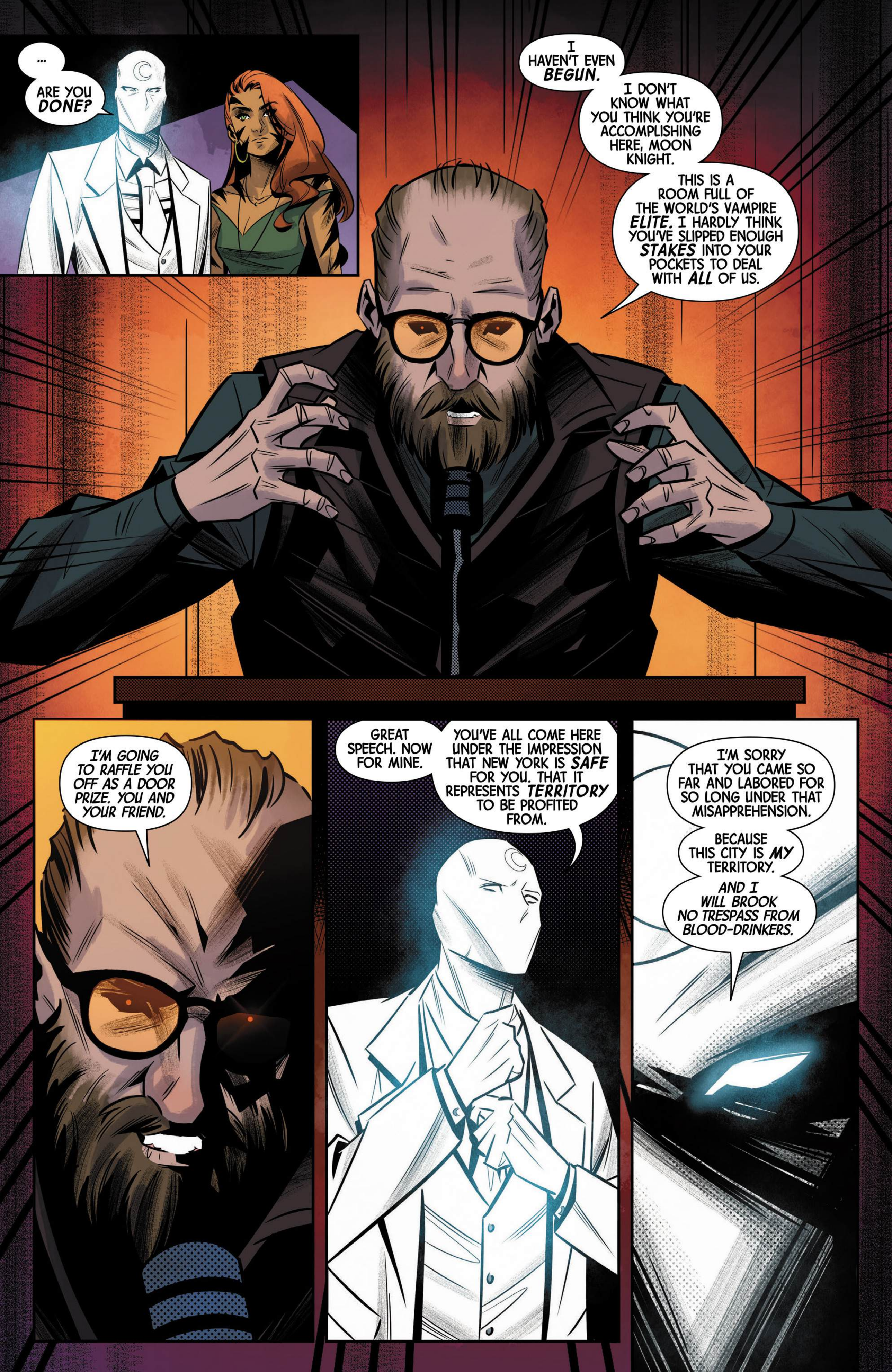
AND TIGRA!

--REPRESENTS THE *PAST.* MOON GODS AND SUPER HEROES. FUTILE STATEMENTS, SUICIDAL CONFRONTATIONS.

WHILE I AND THE STRUCTURE REPRESENT THE *FUTURE.*

YOU KILLED MY GUARDS, MADE YOUR WAY INTO THE *HEART* OF MY "SCHEMES"...AND FOR WHAT?

DID YOU NOT REALIZE WHAT *AWAITED* YOU HERE?


...
ARE YOU DONE?
I HAVEN'T EVEN BEGUN.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU THINK YOU'RE ACCOMPLISHING HERE, MOON KNIGHT.
THIS IS A ROOM FULL OF THE WORLD'S VAMPIRE ELITE. I HARDLY THINK YOU'VE SLIPPED ENOUGH STAKES INTO YOUR POCKETS TO DEAL WITH ALL OF US.
I'M GOING TO RAFFLE YOU OFF AS A DOOR PRIZE. YOU AND YOUR FRIEND.
GREAT SPEECH. NOW FOR MINE.
YOU'VE ALL COME HERE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT NEW YORK IS SAFE FOR YOU. THAT IT REPRESENTS TERRITORY TO BE PROFITED FROM.
I'M SORRY THAT YOU CAME SO FAR AND LABORED FOR SO LONG UNDER THAT MISAPPREHENSION.
BECAUSE THIS CITY IS MY TERRITORY.
AND I WILL BROOK NO TRESPASS FROM BLOOD-DRINKERS.

MANY FLOORS BELOW.

ARE YOU *SURE* YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, SOLDIER?

YEAH.

I WOULDN'T HAVE PEGGED YOU FOR AN *ELECTRICIAN.*

I'M *NOT*. BUT I *AM* TRAINED TO BE A *SUPER-TERRORIST.*

INFILTRATION, COERCION, INFRASTRUCTURE ATTACK...HYDRA HAD IT DOWN TO A *SCIENCE.*

PRINTED THEIR MANUALS AND PROCEDURES IN *THREE-RING BINDERS.*

COAST STILL CLEAR?

YEP.

IT'S KIND OF FUNNY, REESE.

I WAS NEVER GOOD AT *ANYTHING.*

NEVER ANY GOOD AT SCHOOL, NEVER COULD FIND A JOB I *CLICKED* WITH.

SQUARE PEG IN A *ROUND HOLE* WORLD.

HYDRA LOVES GUYS LIKE THAT.
BECAUSE HYDRA IS GOOD AT ONE THING:
TELLING GUYS LIKE ME THAT IT'S NOT THEIR FAULT. THAT IT'S THE WORLD'S FAULT THAT THEY'RE SO ANGRY.
AND THEN THEY GIVE YOU THE TOOLS TO CHANGE THE WORLD, BIT BY BIT, INTO WHAT THEY WANT IT TO LOOK LIKE.
GIVE YOU A GUN AND TEACH YOU HOW TO KILL.
GIVE YOU A COMPUTER AND TEACH YOU HOW TO TAKE OVER A SECURITY SYSTEM.
BUT THEIR BEST TOOLS ARE THE ONES YOU COME TO THEM WITH.
HATE. ANGER.
AND THEY GIVE YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO FEED THOSE FEELINGS UNTIL IT'S ALL YOU CAN THINK ABOUT.
AND JUST LIKE THAT, I FOUND SOMETHING I WAS GOOD AT.

VERY INTIMIDATING.
BUT I FIND THAT MY PATIENCE HAS RUN OUT.

AH.
BUT DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT MY SECRET WEAPON IS?

NO.
WOULD SOMEONE PLEASE SEIZE MOON KNIGHT--

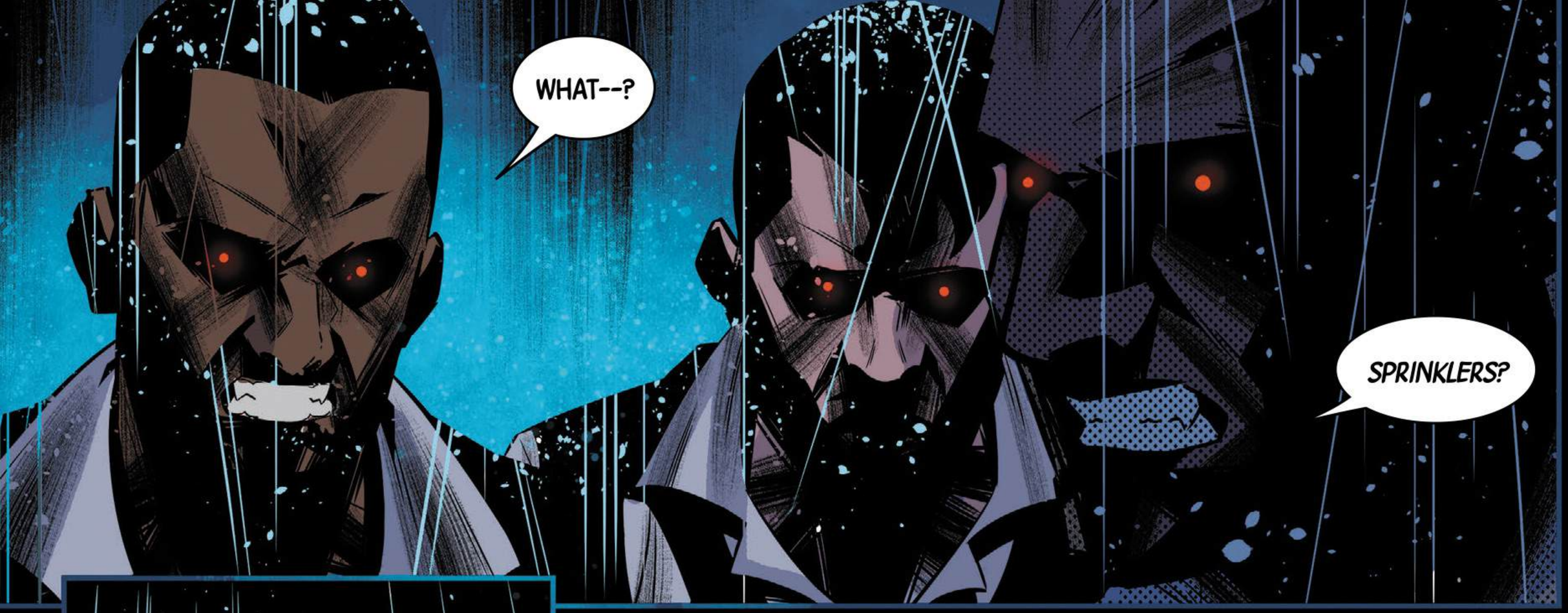
PATIENCE.

THIS IS THE GOOD BIT.

TMP
FWOOSH
NOW, SOLDIER.

I WAS A GOOD AGENT.
THEY GAVE ME MEDALS AND EVERYTHING.
I KNOW THAT YOU THINK IT'S WEIRD HOW DEDICATED I AM TO MR. KNIGHT.
BUT THE FACT IS, EVEN THOUGH I LEFT, EVEN THOUGH I KNOW THAT HYDRA IS ROTTEN, THAT THEY NEVER SAW ME AS ANYTHING MORE THAN A CONVENIENT IDIOT...
...I MISSED IT.
I MISSED FEELING LIKE I BELONGED. I MISSED FEELING LIKE I WAS USEFUL.
HYDRA, THE STRUCTURE... THEY LOVE GUYS LIKE ME.
FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM: BALLROOM
ACTIVATE
I'D DIE FOR MR. KNIGHT, FOR THE MIDNIGHT MISSION. AND I IMAGINE I PROBABLY WILL. THAT'S THE KIND OF GUY I AM.
BUT AT LEAST I'LL BE ON THE RIGHT SIDE.

FWISSSSSSHHHH

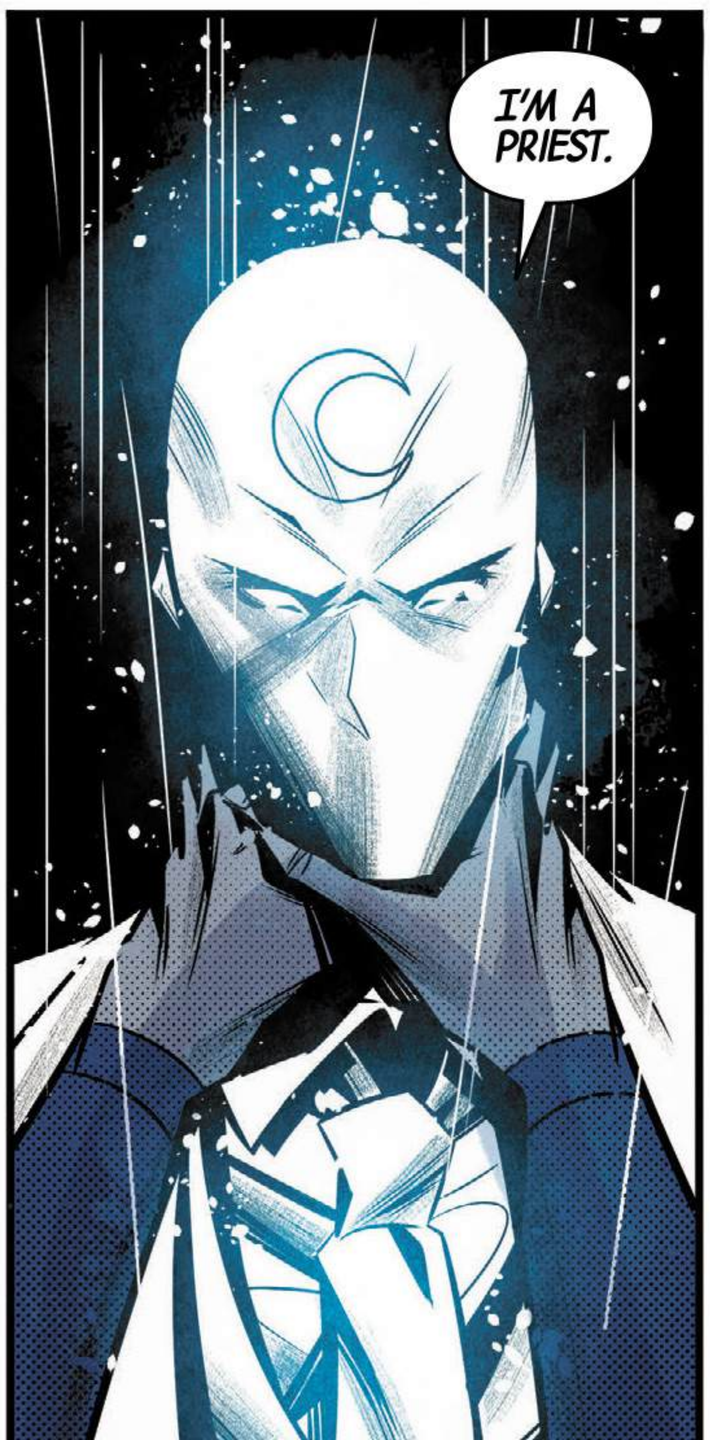


SOME SUPER HERO--

YOU'RE NOT--URKK--LISTENING.

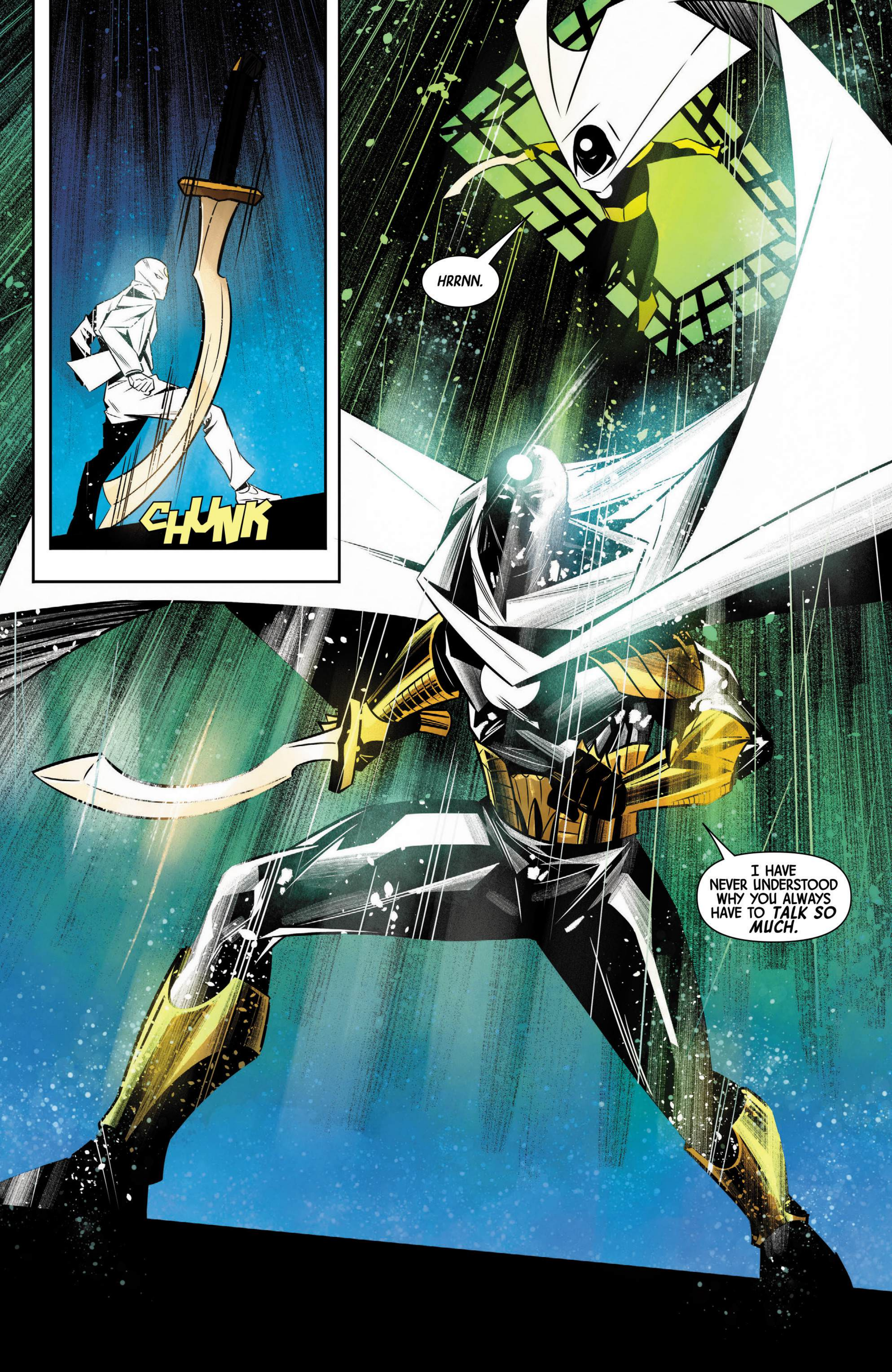
THEY NEVER LISTEN.

I'M NOT A SUPER HERO.



AND I CONSECRATE THIS WATER...
...TO THE SERVICE OF KHONSHU, THAT MISERABLE OLD BASTARD.
HOLY WATER.

HOLY WATER!!!
AIEEEEEE!
KILL THEM ALL, BUT LEAVE ME A WITNESS!
FINALLY. I WAS GETTING BORED WITH ALL THE POSTURING.
AFTER ALL, I GOT MY NAILS DONE FOR THIS PARTY.
SILVER CLAW-CAPS AREN'T CHEAP.
BROTHER!
GIVE ME MY SILVER, AND TAKE YOUR VENGEANCE!


CHUNK
HRRNN.
I HAVE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO TALK SO MUCH.

TUTOR!!!
I KILLED SO MANY OF YOUR PEOPLE.
BUT YOUR ORGANIZATION SURVIVED. BECAUSE THAT WAS HOW YOU BUILT IT.
YOU COULD AFFORD TO LOSE THE RANK AND FILE. YOU WOULD JUST MAKE MORE.
I NEEDED TO FIND THE STRUCTURE'S WEAKNESS.
AND THERE IT WAS, RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.
YOU. SOMEONE LIKE YOU COULD NEVER BUILD AN ORGANIZATION THAT COULD SURVIVE YOUR OWN DEATH.
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT--

LET ME... LET ME WORK FOR YOU. I HAVE VALUE, MY METHODS HAVE VALUE!
I CAN--I CAN BUILD YOUR MIDNIGHT MISSION. I'LL EXPAND YOUR OPERATION, BUILD YOU AN ARMY IN WHITE SUITS!
YOU COULD BE A GOD OF THE STREETS!
NO.
I'VE HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH OF GODS.
NOOOO--

YO!

MARC! THIS ONE'S *CLEAN. HUMAN.*

AND THE OTHERS ARE ALL DEAD.

A GOOD NIGHT'S HARVEST.

HRNNN.

YOU OKAY, HUNTER'S MOON?

I... WE HAVE THINGS WE NEED TO *TALK ABOUT,* MR. SPECTOR.

LATER.

YOU.

PUNK-ASS *RENFIELD,* WORKING FOR THE *VAMPIRES.* WHAT DID DRACULA PROMISE YOU TO SELL THE REST OF US OUT?

DOESN'T MATTER. I'VE GOT *GOOD NEWS* FOR YOU. YOU GET TO *LIVE.*

YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE THIS PLACE, AND YOU'RE GOING TO GO STRAIGHT BACK TO *CHERNOBYL.*

YOU'RE GOING TO DELIVER A *MESSAGE.*

YOU'RE GOING TO TELL DRACULA WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU MAKE A MOVE ON NEW YORK.

ELSEWHERE.
THE MYRMIDON.
PRIVATE PRISON FOR SUPERHUMANS.
MY NAME IS DOCTOR ROBERT PLESKO. I'M A PSYCHOTHERAPIST, AND I'M QUITE INTERESTED IN YOUR CASE, MR....?
YOU KNOW MY NAME, DOC.
YOU KNOW I DON'T. YOU REFUSE TO COOPERATE WITH PRISON ADMINISTRATION, AND THERE APPEARS TO BE NO RECORD OF YOUR IDENTITY ANYWHERE OUTSIDE OF YOUR...ESCAPADES.
"ESCAPADES." HEH. COME ON, LET'S NOT PRETEND WE DON'T KNOW EACH OTHER A LITTLE BIT.
I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR EYES.
YOU'RE NOT SOME SOFT ACADEMIC. YOU'VE SEEN PEOPLE DIE. MAYBE EVEN DID THE KILLING.
AM I WRONG?
NO. NO, YOU ARE NOT. NOT ABOUT THAT, AND NOT ABOUT YOUR NAME.
HERE. I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOMETHING.
CALL IT A COMMUNICATION AID.

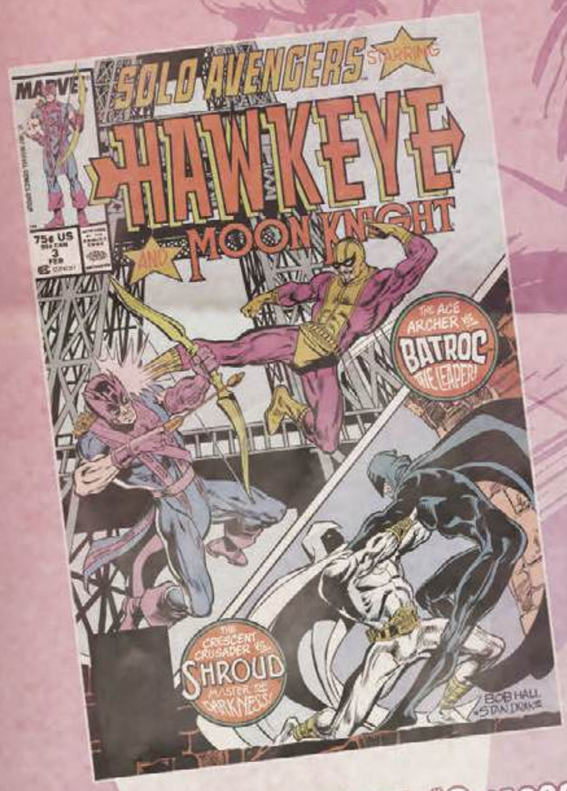
AH.
YOU'RE SMARTER THAN ALL THE OTHERS, DOC.
YOU WANT TO TALK?
LET'S TALK.
AND PLEASE...
...CALL ME ZODIAC.

MOON KNIGHT & WEREWOLF BY NIGHT

TIMELINE

Moon Knight and the **Werewolf by Night** share a rich and intertwined history, leading up to the present day. *Marc Spector* and *Jack Russell* have been both allies and enemies over the years--here you can trace some key moments in the ongoing evolution of their conflict!

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT #32-33 (1972)
Moon Knight makes his debut! Mercenary Marc Spector receives a silver arsenal and orders from the Committee to capture the Werewolf by Night. However, once Moon Knight recognizes Jack Russell's humanity, he fights his former employers alongside Russell.



SOLO AVENGERS #3 (1988)
Now a West Coast Avenger, Moon Knight follows up with his only contact in California: Jack Russell. However, unbeknownst to Moon Knight, the werewolf has joined the vigilante group called the Night Shift.

MOON KNIGHT, Vol. 1 #29-30 (1983)
A satanic cult has chased Jack Russell for a year until his arrival in New York, where he reaches out to his rival, Moon Knight. After a brief rematch, Moon Knight and Russell fight side by side to bring down the cultists.

MOON KNIGHT, Vol. 5 #20 (2008)
A string of murders and rumors of a lycanthrope-fighting ring brings Moon Knight to the club Lu'Pine. There, he clashes with Jack Russell once more.

MARC SPECTOR: MOON KNIGHT #52-53 (1993)
The hunt for the supernatural Hellbent brings the Werewolf by Night to the abandoned Spector Mansion and another rematch with Moon Knight beneath the full moon--with Gambit also in the fray!

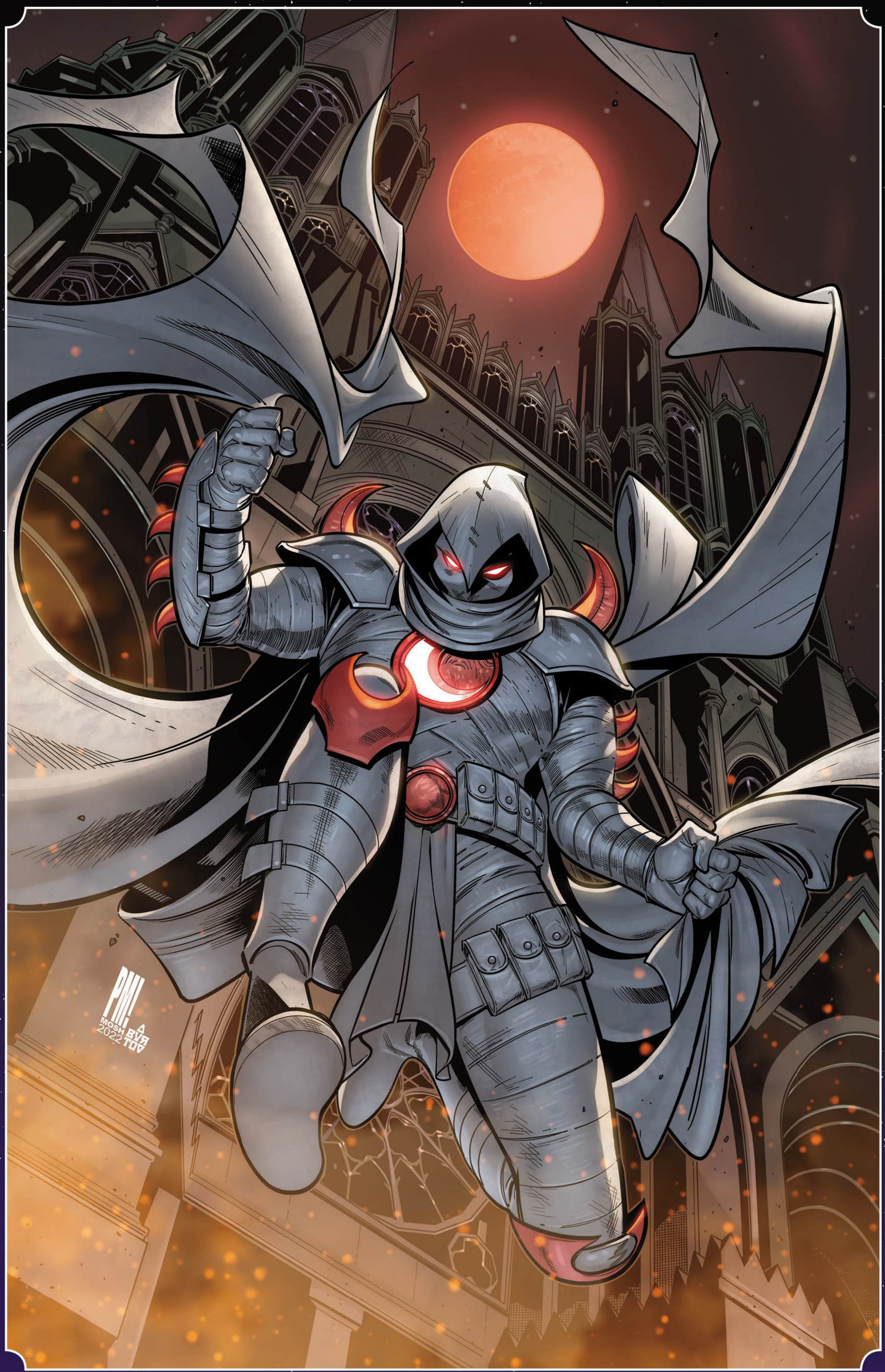
#13 VARIANT BY E. M. GIST

#15 MIRACLEMAN VARIANT BY **DECLAN SHALVEY**

ANNUAL VARIANT BY **BILL SIENKIEWICZ**

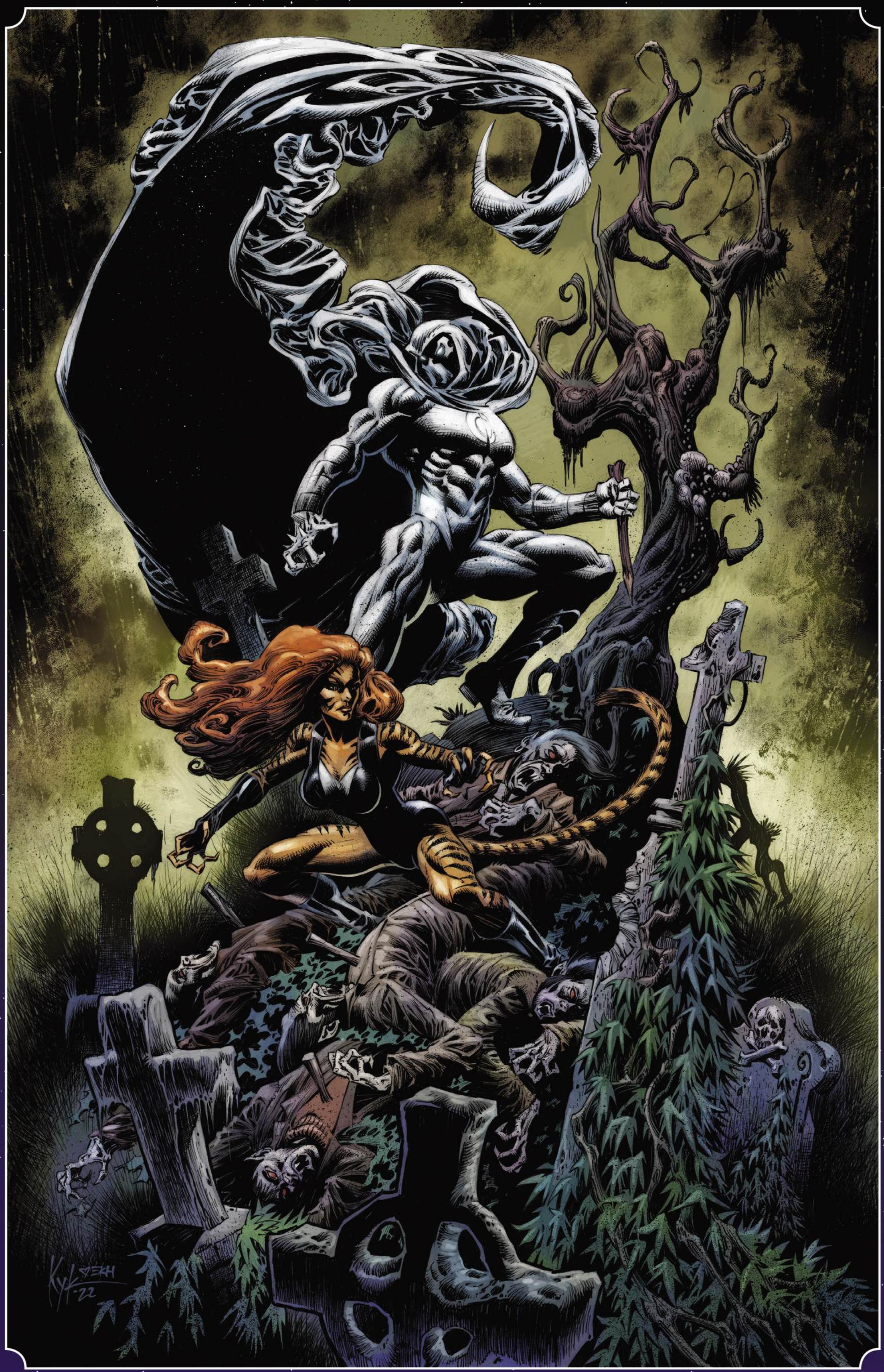
ANNUAL VARIANT BY **NIC KLEIN**

#16 VARIANT BY **JOSHUA CASSARA & DEAN WHITE**



#17 X-TREME MARVEL VARIANT BY **PACO MEDINA & JESUS ABURTOV**

#18 MARVEL UNIVERSE VARIANT BY **PEACH MOMOKO**



#18 VARIANT BY **KYLE HOTZ & DAN BROWN**

"MacKay takes the opportunity to really explore [Moon Knight], and it works beautifully." – You Don't Read Comics

THE SCARS OF ZODIAC'S ATTACK LINGER, BUT THAT DOESN'T STOP MOON KNIGHT

FROM PICKING A NEW FIGHT!

MARC SPECTOR'S WAR with the vampires of the Structure must be fought on two fronts: one on the midnight streets, and the other within his own mind! Marc needs information, and he must rely on some old allies to get it. And while secrets are ferreted out from the steamiest gutters to the highest seats of power, Moon Knight must reveal a hidden truth to those closest to him! Meanwhile, Hunter's Moon stalks the rooftops on his own, intent on his own definition of justice. What shocking revelations will Marc Spector learn about the Fists of Khonshu? And Moon Knight once again encounters Jack Russell, the Werewolf by Night!

T+

MARVEL

COLLECTING ***MOON KNIGHT (2021) #13-18*** AND ***MOON KNIGHT ANNUAL (2022) #1*** – BY JED MACKAY, FEDERICO SABBATINI, ALESSANDRO CAPPUCCIO AND RACHELLE ROSENBERG.